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THE LOUISIANA DIFFICULTY.

AFFAIRS IN NEW-ORLEANS.

BISHOP WILMER HAS A FRIENDLY TALK WITH GEN. SHERIDAN—GOV. KELLOGG RECEIVING PROPOSITIONS FOR A COMPROMISE—CONGRESSMAN MOREY HAS A BILL TO BE PRESENTED IN THE HOUSE—JUDGE DIBBLE'S LETTER.

From Our Own Correspondent.

NEW-ORLEANS, Jan. 9.—This afternoon Bishop Wilmer, who, it will be remembered, signed a protest against Gen. Sheridan's dispatch, called on the General, and had a long private interview with him. The conversation resulted in mutual explanations, and the Bishop did not leave Gen. Sheridan until many expressions of friendship and good will had passed between them.

PROPOSITIONS FOR A COMPROMISE.

During a conversation had with Gov. Kellogg this evening he intimated that he was in receipt of many propositions from the Democrats looking toward a reconciliation. One of these propositions, he stated, was that a Constitutional Convention be called, and measures taken to reorganize the State Government upon an entirely new basis. The Republicans have not as yet officially considered any of these overtures.

CONGRESSMAN MOREY'S BILL FOR A PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT.

Congressman Frank Morey, of this State, left for Washington last night. Before his departure he stated to prominent Republicans here that he would shortly present a bill in Congress which will provide for a provisional government of the State for one year, and a new and final State election in 1876. Gov. Kellogg is known to be opposed to this measure. It is favored, however, by the Republican candidates who were defeated in the last election. A number of well informed persons believe that Morey's bill will be introduced for the purpose of defeating Gen. Butler's scheme for a new election.

GREAT INDIGNATION AMONG REPUBLICANS AT JUDGE DIBBLE'S LETTER.

The letter published by Judge Dibble in relation to Kellogg's Government has created considerable excitement among office-holders in New-Orleans. Dibble is generally denounced as a traitor to his party, and the Governor expresses a determination to remove him from the position of Assistant Attorney General which he now occupies.

THE NEW-ORLEANS MUNICIPAL AUTHORITIES PROTEST AGAINST THE SHERIDAN DISPATCH—A QUORUM IN THE KELLOGG LEGISLATURE.

NEW-ORLEANS, La., Jan. 9.—Mayor Leeds, in a message to the City Council to-day, called attention to the published dispatch of Gen. Sheridan to the Secretary of War, dated Jan. 4, by which the community has been calumniated, and advised the Council to make an emphatic denial of this most unjustifiable calumny.

The Council adopted a resolution saying, "We know that such charges are unfounded in fact and unjust, and we appeal to the sense of justice of the citizens of sister States who have been among us, to stigmatize as they deserve the unwarranted charges and aspersions thus brought against us by Gen. Sheridan."

In the House of the Kellogg Legislature the Clerk announced fifty-five members present, and a quorum. The memorial of the Conservative members to Congress was criticised, and pronounced incorrect in several respects, and a committee was appointed to prepare a counter-statement to Congress.

The public schools will reopen on Monday.

Seven policemen who refused to report at the State-house on Monday, to bear arms, if necessary, were to-day dismissed from service.

UNFOUNDED REPORTS—ANOTHER ACCOUNT OF THE INTERVIEW BETWEEN BISHOP WILMER AND GEN. SHERIDAN—THE SLIPS OF THE DIBBLE LETTER.

NEW-ORLEANS, Jan. 9.—Unfounded reports are current that the military have orders to arrest the leading White Leaguers.

Bishop Wilmer and Gen. Sheridan had an interview this evening upon the subject of the condition of affairs in Louisiana. They failed to agree; consequently the interview was somewhat long and stormy. The Bishop explains that in his testimony before the Congressional Committee wherein he stated there was no security, he meant no security under the courts against thefts, &c., of which he was speaking.

The slips of Judge Dibble's manifesto, which was furnished to the Associated Press and the city papers yesterday, were from the *Republican* office. Its non-appearance in the *Republican* to-day created surprise.

REPUBLICAN CAUCUSES.

THE STATE OF AFFAIRS IN LOUISIANA DISCUSSED—SENATORS CARPENTER AND MORTON DIAMETRICALLY OPPOSED AS TO THE COURSE TO PURSUE—NO DECISION ARRIVED AT—OFFICIAL INFORMATION TO BE WAITED FOR.

Special Dispatch to the New-York Times.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 9.—The Republican Senators met in caucus this morning for the purpose of considering the Louisiana question. Senator Ferry, of Michigan, presided. All the Republican Senators now in town were present, except Messrs. Sprague, of Rhode Island, and Ferry, of Connecticut. Several propositions were presented, rather with a view of eliciting an expression of opinion than with an expectation of securing their adoption. Senator Morton thought Congress should give the Kellogg Government positive and unmistakable recognition, and believed if this were done the troubles in Louisiana would cease. This he believed to be the only legal and safe course for Congress to pursue. The hope that the Federal Government may be persuaded to interfere for the overthrow of the existing State Government was what induced the opponents of Kellogg to maintain the agitation, and is the fruitful cause of violence and disorder in the State. Senator Carpenter did not think it would be just or politic to give Kellogg recognition, and spoke in favor of Congress ordering a new election, maintaining the same position held by him a year ago when discussing the Louisiana question. Other Senators gave expression to their views, and while there was some difference of opinion as to what might be the best course to adopt, it is understood there was very little dissent from the view that so far as there was now information, the interference of the military to prevent riot and bloodshed on the 4th inst. was proper, and should be sustained. No formal resolution indorsing the President was presented for adoption, but it is said the sentiment on this subject was nearly unanimous. It was deemed best not to formally agree at the meeting to-day to any particular line of policy to be pursued, but to await the report of the facts to the Senate by the President. A committee of three was appointed to prepare a report to submit at an adjourned meeting of the caucus, to be held on Monday morning next.

CAUCUS OF THE REPUBLICAN MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE—STRICT SECRECY OBSERVED—NO DECISION ARRIVED AT.

The House Republicans assembled in caucus at 7 o'clock. A resolution was passed enjoining the strictest secrecy upon all members. The session lasted until 11 o'clock. Horace Maynard was appointed Chairman, Gunckel, of Ohio, Secretary. White, of Alabama, opened by an earnest speech advocating increased protection for the South. The measures he advocated were additional means for the protection of the ballot and to prevent intimidation by arms-bearing. The general Southern situation rather than Louisiana proper was discussed. The speakers were Alexander White, Cessna, Dawes, Sypher, Benjamin F. Butler, E. Rockwood Hoar, Garfield. Butler wished to have his bill for a new election approved. Final action was not taken. The caucus adjourned to await the report of the New-Orleans Committee. The general expression of the debate favored a support of the Administration. The caucus was very harmonious. A committee of nine was appointed to draft new legislation for increasing the protection of the ballot in the South. The caucus agreed that if some appropriation bill was not taken up Monday, after the morning hour, to vote to adjourn the House. Judge Hoar and Ben. Butler, who have disagreed for years, nearly agreed to-night.

DIFFERENCES OF OPINION BETWEEN THE REPUBLICAN SENATORS AND MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE.

The caucuses to-day develop the fact, which has been growing more apparent for several days, that there is quite a wide divergence of opinion between the Republicans of the House and of the Senate touching Louisiana affairs. The House responds more directly to the voice of the press and the people, and the Senate is more inclined to adhere to the policy that has been hitherto pursued. The Republicans in the Senate will very generally approve the measures that have been used to sustain the Kellogg Government, and will indorse the course of the Administration, and now seem likely to favor Congressional recognition of Kellogg as Governor and to authorize his continued support. A large number of Republican Representatives are radically opposed to the use that has been made of the troops, and favor a change of policy, either by withdrawing the forces or ordering a new election.

SENATOR FERRY'S VIEWS.

Senator Ferry, of Connecticut, does not approve of the military interference at New-Orleans, on Monday last. If his health will permit, and he can get an opportunity, he will address the Senate in condemnation of that action.

JUDGE DIBBLE'S LETTER REPUDIATED BY KELLOGG.

The following telegram was received to-night:

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 9.

A. P. Field, Washington:

The Republican Party do not indorse Dibble's letter. He published it in Democratic papers alone. Our friends generally condemn it.

W. P. KELLOGG.

THE SENATORIAL CAUCUS.

Dispatch to the Associated Press.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 9.—The Republican Senators to-day held a long caucus, in which there was a general discussion on the order of business, and the course necessary to be taken in affairs concerning the South, especially relative to events in Louisiana. While there were some Senators who emphatically indorsed the President and Gen. Sheridan, others perferred to await the forthcoming special Message of the President relative to Louisiana affairs before expressing their opinions. It was generally admitted, however, that it was the duty of the Government to protect all its citizens in all their legitimate rights irrespective of the clamors of the opposing party. The object of the caucus was to agree upon some line of policy which would unite the Republicans of both Houses. This purpose will be the subject of an adjourned meeting.

THE HOUSE CAUCUS—A BILL TO BE DRAWN FOR THE PROTECTION OF ALL CITIZENS IN THE SOUTH.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 9.—The Republicans of the House held a caucus to-night, with Mr. Maynard as Chairman and Mr. Gunckel, Secretary. Mr. White, of Alabama, offered a resolution for the appointment of a committee of seven members to draft a general bill with a view to secure the rights of all citizens of the South. In his remarks he referred to alleged outrages and urged the immediate necessity of action if they desired to be true to their professions as Republicans and friends of constitutional liberty. Mr. Dawes, of Massachusetts, said he was desirous of affording the requisite relief, and wanted some plan to be presented as a remedy for the outrages on citizens of the South. Mr. Cessna, of Pennsylvania, in the course of his remarks, approved of Gen. Sheridan's course. Mr. Sypher, of Louisiana, said the necessary remedy was to protect the people of the South who had been enfranchised as an experiment by the Republican Party. Mr. Wilson, of Indiana, desired an amendment instructing the Judiciary Committee to report a bill for a new election in Louisiana. Mr. Butler, of Massachusetts, spoke in favor of the resolution, justifying the President, and justifying the acts of Sheridan. Judge Hoar, of Massachusetts, said he intended to do his duty in spite of the clamors of the public press. He supposed the Republican party would support their President, and he knew the President was endeavoring to confine his action strictly within the line of his constitutional duty. He fully sustained the President and Gen. Sheridan. Mr. Blaine, of Maine, was called for, but did not respond. Mr. Townsend, of Pennsylvania, desired to hear Mr. Foster the Chairman of the New-Orleans Subcommittee, who had just come into the hall, but that gentleman made no response. Mr. Ward, of Illinois, said he would not be bound by the action of a caucus that hesitated to do what was necessary to preserve the Republican Par[illegible] all the citizens of the Union. A resolution for the appointment of a committee of nine, in accordance with Mr. White's proposition, was agreed to, when the caucus adjourned until the report of the Committee on Louisiana Affairs shall be made, and the President's Message on that subject transmitted to Congress.

GEN. SHERIDAN'S REPORT ON THE EVENTS OF THE 4TH INST.

GENERAL ANTICIPATION OF BLOODSHED—PRECAUTIONS TAKEN TO PRESERVE THE PEACE—SCENES IN THE ASSEMBLY—THE DEMOCRATS FIRST CALL FOR THE TROOPS.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 9.—The following official dispatch was received here late last night:

HEAD-QUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSOURI, NEW-ORLEANS, La., Jan. 8.

To Hon. W. W. Belknap, Secretary of War, Washington:

I have the honor to submit the following brief report of affairs as they occurred here in the organization of the State Legislature of Jan. 4, 1875. I was not in command of this military department until 9 o'clock at night on the 4th inst., but I fully indorse, and am willing to be held responsible for acts of the military as conservators of the public peace upon that day. During the few days in which I was in the city prior to the 4th of January, the general topic of conversation was the scenes of bloodshed that were liable to occur on that day, and I repeatedly heard threats of assassinating the Governor, and regrets expressed that he was not killed on the 14th of September last; also threats of the assassination of Republican members of the House in order to secure the election of a Democratic Speaker. I also know of the kidnapping by the banditti of Mr. Cousin, one of the members elect of the Legislature.

THE PROCEEDINGS AT THE ASSEMBLING OF THE HOUSE.

In order to preserve peace, and to make the State-house safe for the peaceable assembling of the Legislature, Gen. Emory, upon the requisition of the Governor, stationed troops in the vicinity of the building. Owing to these precautions the Legislature assembled in the State-house without any disturbance of the peace. At 12 o'clock William Vigers, the Clerk of the last House of Representatives, proceeded to call the roll, as according to law he was empowered to do. One hundred and two legally-returned members answered to their names. Of this number, fifty-two were Republicans and fifty Democrats. Before entering the House Mr. L. A. Wiltz had been selected in caucus as the Democratic nominee for Speaker, and Michael Hahn as the Republican nominee.

VIOLENT AND ILLEGAL CONDUCT OF THE DEMOCRATS.

Mr. Vigers had not finished announcing the result when one of the members, Mr. Billien, of Lafourche, nominated Mr. L. A. Wiltz for temporary Speaker. Mr. Vigers promptly declared the motion out of order at that time, when some one put the question, and amid cheers on the Democratic side of the House, Mr. Wiltz dashed on to the rostrum, pushed aside Mr. Vigers, seized the Speaker's chair and gavel, and declared himself Speaker. A protest against this arbitrary and unlawful proceeding was promptly made by members of the majority, but Mr. Wiltz paid no attention to these protests, and on motion from some one on the Democratic side of the House, it was declared that one Trezevant was nominated and elected Clerk of the House. Mr. Trezevant at once sprang forward and occupied the Clerk's chair amid the wildest confusion over the whole house. Mayor Wiltz then again, on another nomination from the Democratic side of the House, declared one Flood elected Sergeant at Arms, and ordered a certain number of assistants to be appointed. Instantly a large number of men throughout the hall, who had been admitted on various pretexts, such as reporters and members' friends and spectators, turned down the lappels of their coats upon which were pinned blue ribbon badges, on which were printed in gold letters the words "Assistant Sergeant at Arms," and the Assembly was in the possession of the minority, and the White League of Louisiana had made good its threat of seizing the House, many of the Assistant Sergeants at Arms being well known as Captains of White League companies in this city. Notwithstanding the suddenness of this movement, the leading Republican members had not failed to protest again and again against this revolutionary action of the minority, but all to no purpose, and many of the Republicans rose and left the House in a body, together with the clerk, Mr. Vigers, who carried with him the original roll of the House as returned by the Secretary of State. The excitement was now very great, and the acting Speaker directed the Sergeant at Arms to prevent the egress or ingress of members or others, and several exciting scuffles in which knives and pistols were drawn took place, and for a few moments it seemed as if bloodshed would ensue.

THE UNITED STATES TROOPS CALLED FOR BY THE DEMOCRATS.

At this juncture Mr. Dupre, a Democratic member from Orleans Parish, moved that the military power of the General Government be invoked to preserve the peace, and that a committee be appointed to wait on Gen. De Trobriand, the commanding officer of the United States troops stationed at the State-house and request his assistance in clearing the lobby. The motion was adopted. A committee of five, of which Mr. Dupre was made Chairman, was sent to wait upon Gen. De Trobriand and soon returned with that officer, who was accompanied by two of his staff officers. As Gen. De Trobriand walked down to the Speaker's desk loud applause burst from the Democratic side of the House. Gen. De Trobriand asked the acting Speaker if it was not possible for him to preserve order without appealing to him to preserve order as a United States Army officer. Mr. Wiltz said it was not, whereupon the General proceeded to the lobby, and, addressing a few words to the excited crowd, peace was at once restored. On motion of Mr. Dupre, Mr. Wiltz then, in the name of the General Assembly of the State of Louisiana, thanked Gen. De Trobriand for his interference in behalf of law and order, and the General withdrew.

ACTION OF THE REPUBLICANS.

The Republicans had now generally withdrawn from the hall, and united in signing a petition to the Governor, stating their grievances and asking his aid, which petition, signed by fifty-two legally returned members of the House, is in my possession.

CONTESTING DEMOCRATIC MEMBERS SWORN IN.

Immediately subsequent to the action of Mr. Wiltz in ejecting the Clerk of the old House, Mr. Billien moved that two gentlemen from the Parish of De Soto, one from Winn, one from Bienville, and one from Iberia, who had not been returned by the Returning Board, be sworn in as members, and they were accordingly sworn in by Mr. Wiltz, and took their seats on the floor as members of the House. A motion was now made that the House proceed with its permanent organization, and accordingly the roll was called by Mr. Trezevant, the acting Clerk, and Wiltz was declared Speaker, and Trezevant Clerk of the House.

GOV. KELLOGG ASKS THE AID OF THE TROOPS.

Acting on the protest made by the majority of the House, the Governor now requested the commanding General of the department to aid him in restoring order, and enable the legally returned members of the House to proceed with its organization according to law. This request was reasonable, and in accordance with law. Remembering vividly the terrible massacres that took place in this city on the assembling of the Constitutional Convention in 1866, at the Mechanics' Institute, and believing that the lives of the members of the Legislature were, or would be, endangered in case an organization under the law was attempted, the posse was furnished, with the request that care should be taken that no member of the Legislature returned by the Returning Board should be ejected from the floor. This military posse performed its duty under directions from the Governor of the State, and removed from the floor of the House those persons who had been illegally seated, and who had no legal right to be there; whereupon the Democrats rose and left the House, and the remaining members proceeded to effect an organization under the State laws.

IMPARTIAL CONDUCT OF THE TROOPS.

In all this turmoil, in which bloodshed was imminent, the military posse behaved with great discretion. When Mr. Wiltz, the usurping Speaker of the House, called for troops to prevent bloodshed, they were given him; when the Governor of the State called for a posse for the same purpose and to enforce the law, it was furnished also. Had this not been done it is my firm belief that scenes of bloodshed would have ensued.

(Signed,) P. H. SHERIDAN, Lieutenant General.

PUBLIC OPINION.

PREPRATIONS FOR THE MASS-MEETING AT COOPER INSTITUTE.

The Committee of Arrangements for the mass-meeting to be held at Cooper Union to-morrow evening, to protest against the action of the military in New-Orleans, met yesterday at the office of Mr. August Belmont, in Nassau street. A subcommittee of three, to attend to details, consisting of Messrs. Simon Sterne, John A. Beall, and William E. Dodge was appointed, and after some desultory conversation, the committee adjourned without further action. The subcommittee met at 3 P. M., at the office of Mr. Simon Sterne, and letters were addressed by them to a number of prominent gentlemen asking them to speak on the occasion. Messrs. William Cullen Bryant, William M. Evarts, James S. Thayer, William E. Dodge, Frederick A. Conkling, Ex-Gov. E. Salomon, Richard Lathers, George Ticknor Curtis, and Abram S. Hewitt, have, it is said, consented to address the meeting. Ex-Gov. Horatio Seymour, who was invited to deliver an address, had not been heard from by the committee at a late hour last evening, but it was expected that he would reply in the affirmative.

The following names were yesterday signed at the Butter and Cheese Exchange to the call for the indignation meeting to-morrow night: Fairfield & Strant, R. S. & W. Doty, William T. Culbert & Son, Mackenzie, Newman & Co., S. J. Doremus & Co., B. F. Van Valkenburg, J. T. Potter, McBride & Co., W. S. G. Rye & Bros., Lloyd J. Seaman, J. H. Lipman & Co., John S. Martin, M. Folsom, William Oakley & Co., J. Judson, F. G. Wichware, Thompson & Conklin, John C. Mahr, W. H. and C. M. Young.

RESOLUTIONS OFFERED IN THE VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE ON LOUISIANA AFFAIRS—AN UNEXPECTED DISPLAY OF MODERATION IN THE DEBATE.

RICHMOND, Va., Jan. 9.—The following resolutions were introduced in the State Senate to-day:

Resolved, by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Virginia, That the Governors of the States composing the United States of America be, and they are hereby earnestly requested to convene as soon as practicable the Legislatures of their respective States, in order that the States may consult together and advise with each other respecting the late interference of the Army of the United States with the Legislature of the State of Louisiana, and determine simultaneously to defend and preserve the independence and autonomy of the States.

Resolved, That the Governor of this Commonwealth be, and he is hereby requested forthwith to telegraph these resolutions to the Governors of the several States, and request immediate replies.

An animated and prolonged discussion ensued in which a spirit of moderation predominated, leading Senators objecting to Virginia taking the initiatory movement as a State in this grave matter. It was the general opinion, however, that Virginia should give an expression of sentiment through her Legislature in the form of a protest against the action of the General Government in relation to Louisiana, and an appeal to the American people for redress, and also to express the deep and lasting sympathy of the people of Virginia with the people of their sister State of Louisiana.

At the conclusion of the discussion the whole matter was laid over and made the special order for Tuesday at 1 o'clock.

LITTLE ROCK MERCHANTS PROTESTING AGAINST GEN. SHERIDAN'S DISPATCH.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Jan. 9.—The merchants of this city held a public meeting to-night, and passed resolutions denying Gen. Sheridan's dispatch to the Secretary of War in so far as it refers to Arkansas.

A resolution introduced in the Senate to-day also denying Sheridan's statement was referred to the Committee on Federal Relations. A large number of officers and soldiers of the Union Army during the late war publish a card to the same effect.

GUARANTEES DEMANDED FOR THE RIGHTS OF LOUISIANA.

MEMPHIS, Tenn., Jan. 9.—The *Appeal's* Nashville special says the following was presented in the Senate to-day:

Resolved, That our Senators are hereby instructed and our Representatives requested to support and insist on such guarantees as will immediately restore to the State of Louisiana her rights under the Constitution as a sovereign State of the Federal Union.

THE ILLINOIS DEMOCRATIC STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE DENY THAT THEY COUNSELED RESISTANCE TO FEDERAL AUHHORITY.

CHICAGO, Jan. 9.—A dispatch to the Associated Press from Springfield, Ill., says the members of the Democratic State Central Committee deny the authenticity of the address sent from there a few days ago purporting to have been issued by them, calling a mass indignation meeting to protest against the recent action of the Federal Government in New-Orleans. The committee did issue a call for such a meeting, but did not propose to counsel an armed resistance to the Federal powers.

BY MAIL AND TELEGRAPH.

The New-Brunswick Legislature meets on the 18th inst.

The Newfoundland Legislature will meet on the 4th February.

The Dominion Parliament will convene on the 4th of February.

The election of a United States Senator from Nebraska occurs next week.

The amount of national bank notes received for redemption yesterday was $623,300.

Postal service has been ordered on the Eastern Ohio Railroad, from Dyson's to Cumberland.

The State Legislature at Lincoln, Neb., adjourned yesterday. No business was transacted.

The Navy Department is advised that the Canandaigua sailed from New-Orleans for Aspinwall on Thursday.

Julius Lee, of the firm Lee & Walker, Philadelphia, well-known music publishers, died suddenly yesterday of apoplexy.

The Revenue of the Dominion of Canada for the month of December was $1,644,006, and the expenditure $1,010,096.

The Canada Atlantic Cable Company gives notice that they will apply to Parliament next season to amend the charter of their company.

The Wisconsin Legislature will meet next Wednesday. It is understood that a caucus will be called at an early date to nominate a United States Senator.

The County Court-house at Quincy, Ill., was destroyed by fire yesterday, but all the papers and records were saved. The loss on the building is about $12,000.

William L. Sargent and wife were arrested at Cincinnati last night, on suspicion of being implicated in a burglary of $12,000 worth of jewelry at Rochester, N. Y., last month.

Leonard, the man who robbed the safe on the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad, has been sentenced at Belvidere, N. J., to five years in the State Prison, with hard labor.

The Atlantic Cotton Mills, of Lawrence, Mass., which have been running only four days in the week, start on full time to-morrow. They give employment to 1,900 operatives.

Taylor Strander, colored, the Virginia wife murderer, whose case has been carried from court to court and appealed, was yesterday sentenced to be hanged on the 26th of March next.

The American Steam-ship Company has chartered the Williams & Guion steamer Manhattan to take the place of the Abbotsford, disabled. The Manhattan leaves Liverpool for Philadelphia on the 20th inst.

Application will be made to the Dominion Parliament to incorporate the Kingston, Madoc and Lopey Lake Railroad Company, to build a road from some point on the Kingston and Pembroke Railroad, via the townships of Sheffield and Hungertord, to the iron ore deposits in Madoc and Marmora, and thence to Georgian Bay.

THE MINNESOTA UNITED STATES SENATORSHIP—RAMSEY AHEAD.

ST. PAUL, Minn., Jan. 9.—At a caucus of Republicans friendly to Senator Ramsey held last evening, the fact was developed that he has positive strength enough to assure his nomination on the first ballot. The opposition to him is divided between W. D. Washburne, Gov. Davis, and Ex-Gov. Austin, of whom Senator Ramsey is the second choice of a considerable number.

THE CHICAGO GRAIN BRIBERY CASE.

CHICAGO, Ill., Jan. 9.—The Grand Jury this morning indicted Richard Morton, of Kentland, Ind., who was brought to this State on a requisition of Gov. Beveridge, on a charge of bribery. It will be remembered this was a case of an alleged attempt, on the part of Morton, to bribe Grain Inspector Harper, of this city.

HOLIDAY FRANCE.

METROPOLITAN PICTURES AT CHRISTMAS-TIDE.

ALONG THE BOULEVARDS—THE BOOTHS AND THEIR CONTENTS—NEW TOYS.

From Our Own Correspondent.

PARIS, Friday, Dec. 25, 1874.

This year Christmas happens to fall upon one of my most important post days, and hence I feel bound to devote a couple of hours before turkey and plum pudding to men and things in France. Perhaps I should not insist upon it so conscientiously, however, if the weather were fine enough to be out of doors. But a more disagreeable holiday than that upon which we have fallen could scarcely be imagined. The sky is dark and gloomy. Rain and snow fall by turns, and the streets are ankle-deep in slush and mud. The few persons that venture out have the woe-begone appearance of a barn-yard cock in the midst of a shower, and the boulevards, along which the *baraques* have just been raised, present some striking pictures of desolation and of disappointed hopes. Yesterday we had the most severe snow-storm that I have ever seen in France, and on my way to Versailles I saw it from four to six inches deep upon the fields, and drifting into banks under the hedges and walls. A freezing, biting, north-eastern wind added to the discomforts of the day. But rain fell in the evening, and the entire force of city street-cleaners was turned out to prepare for to-day, the opening day for the annual traffic in the booths. But this morning again snow began to fall, and it has continued to fall until this evening without intermission, except when it gave place to a still more disagreeable fall of rain. This very common picture of Winter weather will not produce a great impression upon the minds of American readers, but it is a very serious thing for Paris. If the same sort of weather should continue throughout the week, it may prove a serious thing for France, since the failure of the usual trade in *articles de Paris*, oranges and toys, may be visited upon the Government, and give rise to troubles that cannot easily be suppressed.

THE BONAPARTISTS.

In Paul De Cassagnac's article which caused the suspension of the *Pays* he remarked upon the tendency of certain men to find evidences of Bonapartist conspiracies in everything, and added that the bad weather even, should it cause great loss to trade, will certainly be visited upon that party. Such has been the case this morning. As absurd as it may appear, the Bonapartists are accused on account of the bad weather, for the purpose of turning the accusations that the people will not fail to address to some one from the Government to that party. One of the Septennalist organs gives an eloquent picture of the Bonapartist rejoicings over the storm and over the disappointed hopes of the poor people who are thus doomed to poverty and loss. The Government is called upon to use vigorously all the measures at its disposal against the Bonapartists for the purpose of putting an end to this horrible state of things. Last year the Republicans were responsible; this year it is the turn of the Bonapartists; next year it will be the turn of the party which happens to be the most feared at the moment. Let me say that this nonsense comes from the Orleanists principally, for just at this moment the Republicans are saying very little, but they are acting with great firmness, prudence, and wisdom. Even Gambetta, the former *fon furieux*, has become so moderate and *sage* that he accuses M. Thiers with being more radical than himself.

THE BOULEVARD TRADES.

The great feature of the moment is the toy trade upon the boulevards, and the opening of the booths which line these great thoroughfares. As I have annually remarked for several years past, the original purpose was to encourage the *ouvriers* to do overwork at home, and thus keep them from the cabarets and from the temptations of vice. Skilled workmen who manufactured *articles de Paris* at home were allowed to sell them during the holidays, the Government charging one franc a day for rent of the *baraques*. Four or five workmen generally combined to take one booth, thus paying but four or five sous per diem for rent. The booths were kept by the wives and daughters of the workmen, who were themselves there in the evening. But after the fall of the Empire the city sold the *baraques*, which were uniform in size, and painted, leaving the workmen to provide for themselves. As many could not go to the expense of providing booths, the privilege fell into the hands of the small shop-keepers, who now use it to work off their old stocks. The number of applications from real workmen has become extremely limited, and nearly every other stall is now devoted to the sale of oranges, bon-bons, or macaroons. The *baraques* are no longer uniform, and have become plain board shanties or boxes, according to the means of the person, and many of them are eyesores to the community.

HOLIDAY WARES.

This year 1,517 applications for stalls were received at the Prefecture of Police. Of the above number 400 are for the sale of children's toys, some 200 for oranges, 200 for candies, and the rest for various industries, such as the sale of gyroscopes, porcelain, ginger-bread, and small games of hazard. In the cake and porcelain stalls there are games of chance, where one pays two sous for the privilege of turning a sort of roulette, those who win having a prize of small value or a dozen macaroons upon a piece of paper. The three great days for all these small industries are Christmas Day, New Year's Day, and New-Year's Eve, when the children are taken out with their parents; but when it storms the little ones are not only deprived of this pleasure, but the dealers are deprived of the best part of their annual receipts. It will thus be seen why bad weather is a very serious thing here during the holidays. Among the industries which I neglected to note above is that of Russia leather goods, so-called, or *maroquinerie*, the articles being made, however, of cheap French kid or calf. If not genuine, they look as beautiful as the real article, a large amount of taste being displayed, and no one can complain of the price. On passing the *baraques* one hears the cry of "*Toute la boutique pour dix-neuf sous*," and for nineteen sous you can buy a portemonnaie that looks as good as those sold in the shops for ten or twelve francs. And some of these cheap articles are more durable than one would imagine from the price. I bought one a year ago to-day for thirty-nine sous, and it has served me well for twelve months without showing even yet too great signs of dilapidation. When one can say this of an article in such constant use, it is an evidence that all these articles are not necessarily bad because they are cheap.

NEW TOYS.

The chief preoccupation of the toy dealers is to produce something new each year, and frequently, as in the case of the little red wooden ball attached to a rubber string, large fortunes are made by a new invention in children's toys. I cannot yet say what will be offered us this year, but three new toys have been announced. One is "Round the world in eighty seconds," a small globe top spun upon a circular table, around which it goes in little over a minute, raising up elephants, serpents, palm-trees, Indians, Rajahs, and other things, in its course, and constantly scattering a fine shower of gold-dust, making a sort of halo about it. Another is the "Septennat," a kind of game of patience; and finally, the *Question de l'opera*, which is a music-box and a game at the same time. The "little Léotard" still holds its own, and is a very amusing toy. I should add that the "Opera Question" is born of the recent discussions here, about which I have more to say when I can find a favorable moment. Little balls are rolled toward a hole guarded by a figure supposed to be the architect, who is defending his doors, and if the ball enters he begins to tear his hair; three figures, representing an actor, an actress, and an editor, begin to dance about him, to the sound of the music, and in the end he is tumbled over, and the others have the opera. It is a very ingenious little piece of mechanism, but looks fragile and difficult to keep in order.

CHRISTMAS OBSERVANCES.

Christmas Eve was kept here as usual, and there was an unusual attendance at the churches for the *messe de minuit*, or midnight mass. At the Madeleine seats were engaged in advance and places paid for a week ahead. By 11 o'clock there was an immense crowd here, despite the bad weather, and thousands of persons must have gone away without having entered the church doors. This morning, also, all the churches were crowded, that of my parish being filled to overflowing. The decorations are always artistic, and the music is very tempting. After the mass comes the usual supper, for on the night of Noël the Parisians feel bound to eat the traditional *boudin*, or blood-pudding, and it is generally accompanied by a very choice selection of other dishes.

WEATHER REPORT.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 10—1 A. M.—The snow-storm on Friday night over the upper lake region has moved eastward over the lower lake region to Nova Scotia and New-Brunswick. It has been followed by rapidly rising and high barometer, decided fall in and low temperature, brisk and high west to north winds and clearing weather from the lake region south and east to the Gulf and Atlantic coasts. The pressure diminished somewhat during Saturday in the Northwest, with winds backing to south-westerly, rising temperature, and generally clear weather. The Ohio and Cumberland Rivers have continued falling, and the Mississippi below Cairo slowly rising.

PROBABILITIES.

During Sunday in the South Atlantic and East Gulf States high barometer, north-west to north-east winds, clear or partly cloudy and decidedly cold weather will prevail.

In Tennessee, the Ohio Valley, and the upper lake region, falling barometer, slowly rising temperature, winds shifting to south and east, and generally clear weather.

For the Upper Mississippi and Lower Missouri Valleys, and the North-west, rising temperature, falling barometer, east to south winds, and increasing cloudiness.

For the Middle States and the lower lake region, north west to south-west winds, diminishing in force, low temperature, generally clear weather, and high followed by falling barometer, and in the latter section winds backing to southerly.

For New-England, rising barometer, falling temperature, north to west winds, diminishing in force, clear or partly cloudy and decidedly cold weather.

Cautionary signals continue on the coast from New-York to Eastport.

IN THIS CITY.

The following record shows the changes in the temperature during the past twenty-four hours, in comparison with the corresponding date of last year, as recorded at Hudnut's pharmacy:

	1874.	1875.		1874.	1875.
3 A. M.	34°	30°	3:30 P. M.	46°	35°
6 A. M.	33°	30°	6 P. M.	44°	26°
9 A. M.	31°	33°	9 P. M.	40°	11°
12 M.	42°	35°	12 P. M.	39°	6°

Average temperature yesterday.....25¾°

Average temperature for corresponding date last Year.....39°

Weekly average for 1874.....43.53°

Weekly average for 1875.....29 2-7°

THE WEATHER FOR THE WEEK.

The following is an abstract of the report of the Central Park Meteorological Observatory for the week ending at 1 P. M. yesterday:

Barometer—Mean, 30.111 inches; maximum at 9 A. M. Jan. 6, 30.559 inches; minimum at 11 P. M. Jan. 7, 29.733 inches; range, .826 inch. Thermometer—Mean, 29.6°; maximum at 5 P. M. Jan. 4, 40°; minimum at 7 A. M. Jan. 6, 16°; range, 24°. Remarks—Jan. 4, rain and sleet from 8 A. M. to 9.20 A. M.; amount of water, .02 inch.; Jan. 7, rain and sleet from 6 A. M. to 11 P. M., amount of water, .76 inch; total amount of water for week, .78 inch, distance traveled by the wind during the week, 787 miles.

SEVERE WEATHER IN THE WEST.

HEAVY SNOW-STORMS—THE TEMPERATURE BELOW ZERO—MUCH SUFFERING ANTICIPATED.

CHICAGO, Ill., Jan. 9.—About 7 o'clock last night the weather turned suddenly cold and a driving snow-storm from the west set in. It grew colder hourly. Dispatches from points throughout the North-west report extremely cold weather, and in some places heavy snow-storms. At Jacksonville, Ill., it was snowing heavily last night, the thermometer being below zero. At Des Moines, Iowa, at 11 o'clock last night, the thermometer marked 28° below zero. A drifting snow-storm has prevailed since 10 o'clock yesterday morning, and it was feared that much suffering would ensue among the poorer classes. All trains arrived in this city on time last night, but there will undoubtedly be serious delays to to-day's trains.

John Hogan, laborer, was found this morning at the corner of Kenzie street and Ashland avenue, on the West side, frozen to death.

The thermometer to-day and last night has ranged from 18° to 25° below zero in and about the city.

A SCHOOL-GIRL FROZEN TO DEATH AT OMAHA.

OMAHA, Neb., Jan. 9.—The extreme cold weather here and West beyond Cheyenne continues. The thermometer here last night reached 21° below, and at Cheyenne 38° below zero. It has moderated a little to-day, but is still very cold.

A school-girl was so badly frozen here yesterday that she died to-day.

SUDDEN AND MARKED CHANGE IN THE TEMPERATURE AT ST. LOUIS.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Jan. 9.—A very sudden and marked change in the weather occurred here last evening. At 4 P. M. the mercury stood at 31° above, and at 7 P. M. 5° below zero, and the increase in the velocity of the wind was from four to to twenty-four miles per hour. The mercury fell gradually from 7 P. M., and at 10 o'clock was 9° below zero, the lowest point it has touched this Winter.

THE COLDEST DAY OF THE SEASON.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Jan. 9.—To-day has been the coldest this season. The river was partially frozen over this morning

LATEST NEWS BY CABLE.

SPAIN.

ARRIVAL OF KING ALFONSO AT BARCELONA—HIS ENTHUSIASTIC RECEPTION BY THE CITIZENS—HE MAKES A SPEECH AND REVIEWS THE TROOPS.

MADRID, Jan. 9.—The Spanish frigate with King Alfonso on board arrived in the harbor of Barcelona this morning. The Prefect of the city and a number of deputations representing various organizations went on board the frigate and welcomed the King to Spain. His Majesty in reply to these greetings said:

"I am happy to re-enter Spain by way of Barcelona. I know the wants of Catalonia. Of my titles I am proudest of that of 'Count of Barcelona.'"

His Majesty landed at 11 A. M. He was received at the pier by the authorities of the city and an immense crowd of citizens, who were very enthusiastic in their demonstrations of welcome. He went to the Cathedral and afterward reviewed the troops. He will remain in Barcelona until to-morrow noon, when he will leave for Valencia.

OFF

ENGLISH AFFAIRS.

POLITICAL AND SOCIAL TOPICS.

VERNON HARCOURT'S VIEWS—THE STATE OF INDIA—A LIBEL SUIT—MODERN SEAMANSHIP—THE STAGE.

From Our Own Correspondent.

LONDON, Tuesday, Dec. 22, 1874.

Last night, Sir W. Harcourt, better known as Vernon Harcourt, who was Solicitor General toward the close of Mr. Gladstone's Ministry, delivered a speech at Oxford which will probably carry him into the front rank of the Liberal Party. Sir William has somehow never made anything like the impression on the public mind which might be expected from his undoubted cleverness. And various causes—especially his supercilious temper, bumptiousness, and want of sincerity—have been suggested to account for this. He has been suspected of looking for an opportunity rather of distinguishing himself on some hot question of the day, and on the popular side, than of attempting to form an impartial and philosophical judgment on it; but it may be said that in this respect he does not differ materially from other aspiring politicians. Last session he was much blamed for an attack on his former leader, Mr. Gladstone; but it would now seem to be evident that he aspires to leadership himself. His speech last night certainly proved that he had his thumb on the pulse of the country and knew its movements exactly. Any one who wishes to get a smart, lively abstract of the prevalent opinions and prejudices of Englishmen at the present day cannot do better than to read this witty and amusing speech. Sir W. Harcourt avowed himself a Whig—that is, he explained, a moderate Liberal—and ridiculed the crude, sensational crotchets put forth by rash and headlong Radicals—like Mr. Chamberlain, Sir C. Dilke, and others. The Whig Party, he argued, had never been the party of destruction, but the party of reasonable and opportune reforms; and if those who demanded subversion repudiated the Whigs they would neither unite the Liberal Party nor reassure the country. He holds that the disorder from which the nation had been suffering under the late Government was too many doctors and too much physic. The system was congested by what was called "earnest treatment," and which consisted in cramming down the throats of mankind all sorts of stuff, without the least consideration of the capacity of people to assimilate or digest it. He suggested the Labor laws and the Land laws as subjects ripe for practical legislation, and pointed out the wantonness and uselessness of attempting to disestablish the Church and upset other institutions. He also proclaimed toleration as his creed, and declined to join in a crusade against the Roman Catholics. Ingenuity and eloquence could not be worse employed than in trying to persuade men who were as good citizens as anybody, that their religion called upon them to be bad subjects, and this sort of argument would be rather injurious if tried in India. At the same time, he upheld the Church of England as a bulwark of Protestantism, and advocated resolute measures against the Ritualists, whom he accused of endeavoring to establish a sacerdotal supremacy and enslave the reason and conscience of mankind. Altogether the speech, though on many points open to damaging criticism, is at least a remarkably clever and true picture of English thought at the present moment, and will do a great deal to raise Harcourt's position. It is an obvious bid for the support of the old Whigs—the Russells and Cavendishes—and if the stage was clear of Gladstone, Harcourt would have a great chance. However, it is not clear, and here perhaps is the weak point in his calculations.

THE STATE OF INDIA.

The *Times* yesterday published a letter from its Calcutta correspondent which has certainly not diminished the disquietude which is felt about the state of India. The writer asserts that the Indian Government cannot put 30,000 men into the field. The native army is said to be unable to stand the stress of the briefest campaign. The officers are described as hopeless and discontented, and the men as of doubtful loyalty, and if a mutiny—this is, evidently, the terror of Anglo-Indians—occurred, it would be difficult, if not impossible, to abate it. The significance of this statement, if it is even partially true, may be inferred from the fact that what is called the Indian Military Establishment consists of only 193,000 men, of whom 128,447 are Indians and 60,613 English. Of course, it is not to be supposed that of this force only 30,000 are available for active military work, but only that this is about the number that could be reckoned on for special service, the rest being required for other duties. Yet when we find that Scindia has an army of 22,500 and Holkar 28,100 infantry and cavalry, besides artillery, it is natural that the Indian Office should feel rather uncomfortable.

A LIBEL SUIT.

The suit for libel against Baron Grant and Mr. Sampson, late city editor of the *Times*, continues to excite an unpleasant interest very damaging to all persons concerned. There was some doubt whether Grant would go into the box, as once there, some very awkward questions might be put to him about his speculations generally. However, under the influence of his counsel, he mustered up courage to come forward, and was subjected to a pretty stiff cross-examination. He hesitated a good deal in his replies, and several times appealed to the Judge to prevent his affairs being too minutely inquired into—"merely to annoy him." But the Chief Baron rebuked him rather sharply, and told him he must answer. He said that he had known Mr. Sampson for twenty-five years, and more intimately (perhaps he might have added most intimately) for the last fifteen years. They had transactions with each other, and were on private visiting terms. At first he denied that he had ever paid money to Mr. Sampson, but on being pressed he admitted to having at different times paid him sums varying from £200 to £2,000, as "free gifts to recoup him for losses." These admissions were made in consequence of the plaintiff's attorney having got hold of one of Grant's clerks and elicited from him the monetary relations between Grant and Sampson. Grant remarked that "the Directors of a company were always influenced by the position of a person applying for stock or shares, and Mr. Sampson, by reason of his position financially and socially, would be entitled to the consideration of any Directors allotting shares." Sometimes the profit on sale without allotment was paid. On the other hand, if there was a loss, Grant made it up to Sampson out of his own profits. In other words the process was this: Sampson took shares in Grant's companies; if they floated well he pocketed his premiums; if they went to the bad Grant seems to have made good the loss. But, of course, Grant denies that he ever in any way attempted to influence Sampson, though he so generously cultivated his friendship. It is impossible to exhibit more clearly the way in which money articles are concocted.

MODERN SEAMANSHIP.

Admiral Rous, who is now the guiding spirit of the Jockey Club, and the great oracle of the turf, has brought a storm about his head by taking upon himself to criticise modern seamanship. The Admiral belongs to the ante-steam age, and never loses an opportunity of expressing his contempt for the "iron kettles" which have been substituted for ships, and the stokers, who have supplanted real seamen, and who know nothing about sails. The wreck of the La Plata gave him an occasion to suggest that the ship was lost because the officer in command did not understand seamanship, and he also brought forward the upsetting of the Captain as another example of the same defect. A whole squadron of sailing Admirals and Captains who have not taken to horse, but stick to what is sometimes called their native element, have at once opened broadsides upon poor Rous, while some of them have even resorted to torpedoes. It is not the fault of naval officers, they say, that so many ships go wrong, but the fault of the unstable, top-heavy, cranky, and uncertain vessels which they are required to navigate, and Capt. Burgoyne, of the Captain, is vigorously defended. "The Captain," says Admiral Stopford, "is a ship of 4,000 tons, and capsized under two double-reefed topsails, without carrying away a rope-yarn, and Admiral Rous knows that even an old 10-gun brig would not have done such a thing." "I think," says Capt. Commerrell, "if Admiral Rous were to find himself suddenly on board the Monarch or the Agincourt, keeping station at night under sail alone, he would, if the signal to wear together were made, wish himself either with steam at command, or back in his trabaccolo." One proposal of the Admiral is, however, a good one—that each flagship should have a small vessel propelled by sail power alone, in which officers and men should be trained in the duties of seamen.

THE BESSEMER STEAMER.

The Bessemer steam-boat, which is warranted "good against sickness," was tried yesterday on the Humber at Hull, and is said to have done over sixteen miles an hour, which the Directors think, as it was accomplished at a very moderate pressure, is a guarantee that with a high steam power very great speed will be attained.

THE ENGLISH STAGE.

The Lord Chamberlain, in whom the censorship of the London theatres, including those of Westminster, is vested, has just issued a severe remonstrance to the managers on the subject of the "degraded state" of the profession in consequence of "indecent dances and immodest dresses." He mentions that he has already withdrawn one license. This is, I suppose, from the St. James', which has just been abruptly closed, not on account of its actual performances, but on account of an opera bouffe performed there some months ago; he threatens to shut up any other theatres where similar offense is given. He quotes circulars which his predecessor issued in 1869, and particularly calls attention to Lord Sydney's remarks on the effect of indecent exhibitions in creating hostility to the theatre among those who have hitherto been its friends. He adds that he feels sure that all true dramatic artists and real friends of the stage will view the question in a similar light, and the managers will assist him to restore a healthy tone to the stage. I understand that the new Christmas pieces have been subjected to very strict supervision as regards dances and dresses.

A REVIVAL.

The revival of the "Merry Wives of Windsor," at the Gayety, must be pronounced rather disappointing. The fun of the piece is of a very old-fashioned kind, the story is rather disagreeable, and most of the parts are of a thankless character. Moreover, the *Falstaff* of the play is a great falling off from the unctuous buffoon of "Henry IV.," and Mr. Phelps is not in any way fitted for the character. He is a genuine comedian, and has intelligence to understand how the part should be performed, but his hardness and jerkiness of manner, and his gaunt, hollow jaws, render the effort futile. A ballad by Swinburne, with melody by Sullivan, is introduced.

J. H. F.

THE BESSEMER STEAM-SHIP.

The London *Times* of Dec. 22 says: "The propelling engines of the new channel saloon steamship, the Bessemer, having been completed and the hull finished, excepting some small matters of upholstery, &c., arrangements were made for giving the vessel a preliminary trial yesterday. It should be stated that the Humber is a very unsatisfactory place for the trial of high-speed steam vessels, because, although a measured mile has been marked by the usual transit posts on the southern bank of the river between Hull and Grimsby, the actual running of the mile has to be performed at a considerable distance from the shore, and the transit posts are more or less obscured by trees on the Lincolnshire side. Moreover, there are no buoys, as at Stokes Bay, to mark the course which the ship is to run. These imperfections do not materially interfere with the trial of slow steamers, but they are very unfavorable to the trials of fast vessels, as they for the most part tend to diminish the apparent speed, and often make it considerably less than the actual speed. In view of the great importance of the Bessemer trial, it is also well to remark that it seldom happens that the engines of a new ship attain their full power at a first trial, owing to excessive friction in some of the bearings, steam leakages through some of the packings, or other temporary defects which only a trial can develop. It is seldom, also, that contractors at a first trial take the same pains to choose their coal, furnish trained stokers, &c., as they do when making a public trial in which they are bound to do their utmost. For all these reasons it must be understood that, whatever measure of success may attend a first trial of such a ship as the Bessemer, it must not be inferred that she has at once accomplished her full performance. Unfortunately, the machinery for working the saloon, although in an advanced state, is not fully completed, so that the trial of Mr. Bessemer's remarkable invention cannot be made for some two or three weeks to come.

"The steamer, which should have started at 9 o'clock in the morning, was detained till after 10 o'clock by a thick fog on the Humber. The fog was succeeded by a heavy snow-fall, which was at its worst when the measured mile was passed, and lasted till the afternoon, leaving an insufficient duration of daylight for the trial of engine power and speed, and compelling the pilot to return to Hull. The bearings of one of the engines showed a tendency to heat, rendering some slight adjustments necessary. The day was not, however, wasted, as on the run back to Hull, with the steam at a pressure of only nineteen pounds, and the engines making only twenty revolutions, the speed against a strong head wind was ascertained to be fourteen knots, or over sixteen miles an hour, which was considered to make it certain that a very high speed indeed will be attained with full steam power, which should be thirty pounds pressure, and with the engines making nearly or quite thirty revolutions. The steering of the ship was admirable, the ship answering the helm very quickly, and turning in a very small circle for so large a vessel. The behavior of the lower freeboard bow was watched with great interest by Mr. Reed, the designer, and all on board. The bow wave carried was remarkably small, and even when steaming at over sixteen miles an hour, against a strong head wind and some sea, the low deck was seldom covered by the waves. As the trial was simply for the information of the contracting engineers, only ordinary north-country coal and the usual staff of stokers were employed. This preliminary trial developed no defects of any kind in the Bessemer, but has gone far to establish the accuracy of the views upon which she has been built, as regards the performance of the ship and of the engines. On one point the trial exhibited a very remarkable and highly-satisfactory result—namely, the manner in which the two sets of paddle-wheels worked together. The effect of the broken water of the forward wheels is so slight in its action upon the after set of wheels that the difference between the revolution of the two wheels was never greater than one to two revolutions. The ship was taken into the Albert Dock on her return to Hull, to enable the saloon and its machinery to be completed, and to prepare for the official trial of the engines."

PEPPER AS INCENSE.

Whatever differences of opinion, says the *Pall Mall Gazette* of Dec. 22, may exist as to the propriety or impropriety of burning incense in places of worship, there cannot be any question but that the burning of cayenne pepper for the purpose of making congregations sneeze is not a practice sanctioned by canonical, or, indeed, any other law. For this "innovation" a young man named John Gardner was brought before the Magistrates at the Preston Police Court on Friday, charged with causing a disturbance in the Wesleyan Chapel in that town on the previous Sunday evening. Gardner, it seems, went into the chapel soon after service commenced and dropped a piece of lighted cotton waste in the aisle, in which had been mixed a quantity of cayenne pepper. The result was most distressing. The whole congregation was affected by fits of uncontrollable sneezing, some persons were violently sick, others fled from the chapel, and the minister himself, who suffered in like manner with his flock, was compelled to discontinue the service. Gardner having been pointed out as the author of all this anguish, an effort was made by the chapel-keeper to eject him, when he added to the excitement he had caused by kicking that functionary severely on the legs. For this offense he was fined ten shillings and costs; but as he expressed contrition for attempting to suffocate the congregation, that charge was not pressed, and he was ordered only to pay costs for the misdemeanor. The affair is on all accounts to be regretted, for there is quite enough heat at present in religious circles without the introduction of cayenne pepper.

A FOREIGNER'S EYES.

GLIMPSES AT THE CITY OF NEW-YORK BY A FRENCH REVIEWER.

ITS HOTELS—THEIR ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES—THE ACADEMY OF MUSIC—GENERAL CRITICISM.

Notes of travel generally afford entertaining reading. We delight in narratives which convey what a fellow-man has seen and felt abroad. If he tell of parts unknown, he awakens a natural curiosity. If what he describes lie within the compass of our own experiences, we take pleasure in comparing these with his. If the country and society in which we live, happen to be the subjects of his pictures, we cannot fail to derive from them some sort of instruction and amusement. True pictures we can turn to account for a better knowledge of ourselves; false ones we can be amused with, and learn how easy it is to judge other people rashly and superficially. These reflections are suggested by an article in the *Revue des Deux Mondes* on New-York life and manners, from which we intend to give, without much comment, a few extracts.

After some introductory remarks, and a glance at Broadway, Wall street, and Printing-house square, the writer proceeds thus with a description of New-York hotels:

"Everybody knows what is to be found in those hotels with monumental frontage and a thousand rooms. They have everywhere grand stairs, costly carpets, bath-rooms on every floor, luxurious dining-rooms, elevators for travelers, for luggage, for servants, private or public drawing-rooms, and elegant boudoirs for ladies. Nothing has been forgotten; not even the special chamber for newly-married people, 'the wedding-room.' Cold and hot water are driven up to the smallest nooks. Gas is everywhere; the vexatious tax of the wax candle, familiar to European Continental hotels, is unknown. There is the office where you can procure a railroad or steam-boat ticket; there the barber-shop, the paper or cigar stand; there the dealer in fancy articles, the jeweler, the druggist, the tailor, the hatter—they belong to the hotel. As for the bar-room, it is gorgeous, and always crowded, and next to it is a spacious hall with half a dozen billiard-tables.

From 5 o'clock in the morning until midnight there is feeding, unceasingly and on a large scale; breakfast, luncheon, dinner, tea, supper, at certain hours and in regular order. You may eat five meals a day, sit five times at table, and without feeling ashamed, for there are many who do it. From a bill of fare longer than that of any restaurant you may select as many dishes as you please; you are not limited nor charged extra. But the style of cooking will disappoint you, and also the manner of serving. All the dishes are produced at once, and to season them according to your taste you are confronted by a whole laboratory of sauces and spices. The head cook is probably French, but he has left the good traditions behind. He has to adapt himself to new requirements, and draws a salary as large as that of a Minister, as much as 2,000 francs a month.

It is necessary to comply with the discipline of the establishment, and to feel disposed to eat certain things only at certain hours. The unsophisticated foreigner, lost in these deafening caravanseries, frets and complains. His complaints are unheeded; people have not time to notice them. If he is not satisfied he can go; he will not be asked to stay, as there are always travelers enough. When you enter you have to leave your individuality at the door. You are no longer anything but a number, taxed so much a day, except for wine and other luxuries, which are extra, and are rather expensive. With this exception you may secure at the cost of $4 or $5 all the advantages of the best of those capharnaüms. Besides this, you do not owe anything to anybody, not even to the waiters, negroes, or Irishmen, who, by the way, are your equals, render you the least and worst possible service, but do not bother you by begging. * * * There are whole families who are fond of that sort of life, who settle in hotels. They find it more convenient and economical to live thus, on the wing, than to have a home of their own, for the borrowed luxury of these hired houses is calculated to please upstarts and shoddies. These resident guests, almost as numerous as occasional passengers, are easily known. In the evening their ladies come to table in ball attire, with flowers in the hair, and low-neck dresses. They eat in a hurry, absorb large quantities of ice-water, cultivate a taste for champagne, and afterward are seen promenading in long balls ornamented with looking-glasses and brilliantly illuminated. It is Vanity Fair in its crudest display."

Superficial as the picture is, it is not lacking a certain degree of truthfulness. With Europeans married life implies the enjoyment of a home, be it never so small. Hotels, patronized by resident families, are to them unfamiliar, almost unknown; and it would be better if it were so with us. It is a practice, not calculated to promote social morality or domestic happiness.

Among other public buildings which more or less reflect the national taste and spirit, are the theatres. They naturally receive a share of the reviewer's attention.

"The Academy of Music, where Italian opera is sung; the French Theatre, or Lyceum, where our operettas are produced; Booth's Theatre, where Shakespeare is enthroned, under the management of the two brothers of him who assassinated Lincoln, and who was himself the first tragedian of the United States; the Grand Opera-house, built by the financier Fisk, who took a fancy to having the stage by the side of the offices of the railroad company of which he was the Director, are spacious houses, decorated with taste, well ventilated, well lighted, with plenty of room for circulation. Then there are the Bowery, a favorite with a large class of people, and famed for its murder and red fire pieces; Niblo's, the Olympic, Wallack's, and many others, where drama and light comedy are played when the Ethiopian minstrels do not give their performances, which consist of characteristic dances and traditional songs, by which the Northern men are introduced to the ancient and picturesque life of Southern slaves. These minstrels indulge in numerous transparent allusions to the things and men of the day; they remind one of the theatre of Athens in the time of Aristophanes. Not long since they had nightly considerable fun over a scandal which happened in Plymouth Church, in Brooklyn, and in which the celebrated preacher Beecher has been seriously compromised with a lady of his congregation. Another theatre has even improved upon mere allusions and brought out a piece in which the spectators could easily recognize and name the persons who have a part in this painful drama. On the stage liberty merges soon into license, and there are theatres in New-York where, night after night, the most shocking exhibitions take place."

Whether this is meant as a retaliation for some complimentary remarks which American writers have had occasion to venture on the morality of the French stage, we do not know; but we think that the following aspersions on some of our Municipal boards and departments relate to a state of things more fitly criticised:

"The incessant conveyance of goods directed in large quantities on points relatively narrow, the absence of a great central dock such as there is in London, make the paving and repairing of piers and streets in the lower portion of the City of New-York extremely difficult. The difficulty is increased by the fact that a faithless administration has in many instances pocketed the money of taxpayers in order to divide it with the politicians who supported it. More than one Superintendent of Public Works has been sentenced to hard labor. The piers of the North and East Rivers and the neighboring streets are in a most lamentable condition, and many streets in the very heart of the great Metropolis are not better off. One who has not seen the sight cannot fancy the gross neglect of the Street Commissioners of the City. New-York pays more than Paris for the luxury of decent streets, and is a hundred times more wretchedly paved than Paris. * * * It seems as if there was no Municipal Surveyor. The gutters have no regular slope, the sewers are insufficient. The streets are rarely watered or swept, unless at prominent points. The occupants of every house are bound to exhibit on the sidewalk the offal of the kitchen in a staved barrel, which is left there permanently. The middle of the street is a sink, where it is not uncommon to observe dead animals, which are not removed. A manufacturer had one day his bills of advertisement stuck on the bloated carcass of a horse. It was a two-fold object for public curiosity. The paving-stones, unsettled, disjointed, are scattered here and there when they are not completely missing. The least rain produces pools of water, a black and thick slime, in which people sink knee-deep. In Winter it is a great deal worse, when a foot of snow often remains on the ground more than a month. * * * I give up all attempt at description. These things have to be witnessed." * * *

The picture is a little overdrawn, but it must be acknowledged that the main features are taken from actual experience, as are the elements of the following little passage. It relates to horse-car traveling:

"The car is full; never mind, there is always room. Twenty-four passengers can be decently accommodated, three score will crowd in. In the morning, but especially in the evening about 6 o'clock, when people return from business, these vehicles afford a most curious spectacle. The human freight is packed close together, without noise, screaming, or dispute. Everybody crowds up to make room. People carrying bundles are good-naturedly admitted. Ladies are treated with great courtesy. When they are standing, gentlemen give up their seats, without getting the least acknowledgment for their kindness. It is useless to find fault with it; only beware of pickpockets. A bill put up inside of the car is designed to caution you against their presence." * * *

In reference to the population and the clustering of various nationalities the writer says:

"The First, Second, Third, and Fifth Wards are the portions of the town devoted to business; they form the southern and lower part of New-York—the 'down town.' In the Fourth, Sixth, and Seventh Wards, between Broadway and the East River, swarm the Italian emigrants, the *pifferari*, and the greater part of the dangerous classes of that City, peopled by so many different tribes. * * * The French occupy almost entirely the Eighth Ward with their cafés, restaurants, and shops. Our tongue is familiarly spoken there. As bleachers, bakers, manufacturers of artificial flowers, our countrymen are engaged in sundry little trades which do not lead them to wealth. They manage to live as well as possible in this vast pandemonium, in the excitement of which they take but little part. They regret France, and long to go back. The Eleventh Ward is full of Germans and Irish, as numerous in New-York as the native Americans, and forever settled in their adopted country. There the streets are crowded with children. The Germans have imported their musical societies and beer gardens, the Irish their fighting proclivities. The latter have a hand in all political agitations, and by their votes decide the victory of the Democratic Party, which has almost always ruled New-York. The Lord Mayor of Dublin, recently enthusiastically welcomed in America, congratulated his countrymen and observed that New-York was, after Dublin, the City that contained the largest number of Irishmen. He might have added that, after Vienna and Berlin, it also numbered the largest German population."

American life and manners naturally come in for a share of the writer's gentle criticism. We give the following extract as a fair specimen:

"The young American girls only live to have the best possible time. They are as free as can be. Fortunately, their exaggerated love of pleasure is checked by a calculating temperament, which saves them from many a fall. Then, the laws of the country protect them more efficiently than ours would against the enterprises of the male intriguer. They do not, however, prevent many abuses, and fast young ladies are by no means a rarity in the City of New-York. During the day they go with some friends, or with the escort of him who has the privilege to flirt with them, to the Central Park. In Winter they go sleighing and skating, and air their curiosity in all the stores of Broadway. There they get all sorts of goods spread out before them; they ask the price of each, and buy none. The impassive salesman does not show the least sign of discontent. There is a peculiar word for that singular custom. It is 'shopping.' Another custom which is largely practiced by American ladies is to enter confectionery shops and take ice-creams at every opportunity. * * * In the evening the same young ladies are seen at the theatres and in the fashionable eating saloons. If a great ball is given anywhere, you may be sure to meet them there. In Summer they flock to watering places such as Saratoga, Long Branch, and Newport, where several times a day they make a display of dresses which might ruin a score of husbands; or they cross the ocean, and astonish European folks by their merry freaks. * * * Many people accustomed to our habits would not fancy such girls for wives; and they may not be wrong; but the truth is that these gay, light-hearted, and often dangerously-imprudent girls make, in the end, excellent wives and mothers."

We are really obliged to Mr. Simonin for admitting such a possibility, and wish that at his next visit to the United States he may have opportunities of getting a more correct view of the fair sex, and a knowledge of things a little less flimsy, superficial, and one-sided. His judgment on men, in its brevity, is not more complimentary than that on women. "The men," he says, "distinguish themselves from women apparently, at least, by more calmness and reserve. They leave school and begin to work at an early age. They engage with ardor in all sorts of pursuits—trading, banking, manufacturing. Many of them forsake the paternal roof and return only when they have made a fortune. They reckon but little on successions, and a marriage portion is almost unknown, even for girls. The father, a millionnaire to-day, may be a ruined man to-morrow. On whom ought one to rely? On one's self, on one's self alone, and that is what each one is doing. Thus, busy with material objects, the men are not remarkable for refinement of manners; they have not the time to be polite. Their lack of urbanity and their bluntness are well known. If there be any refinement among women there is very little of it to be found in the men." He admits, however, that these native defects are wearing off in large cities, and that there may be found many men of high tone, lofty mind, and intellectual superiority. When a critic, who appears to have had but few facilities for making observations and getting information, says so it must be true. We trust he is also true when he says in conclusion:

"A wonderful fate is that of this City, scarcely noticed on maps a hundred and fifty years ago, and which contains to-day a million of inhabitants, two millions with the cities of Brooklyn, Jersey City, and others which are really parts of the great New-York agglomeration. In twenty years there may be gathered on that point four millions of people. London may be outstripped, as Peking has been by London, and the first city of the globe, as much for its wealth as for the number of its inhabitants, will then be New-York."

THE ERIE CANAL AND THE WEST.

Commenting upon that portion of Gov. Tilden's message which treats of the canals, the Chicago *Tribune* says: "The point in the message which will provoke most criticism in the West is the declaration that it would probably be unwise to reduce the Erie tolls, because the revenue they yield is needed to make improvements. This is dubious doctrine. A reduction in the tolls would probably swell the volume of business so greatly that the net income of the canal would be greater than ever. Moreover, if the present revenue has hitherto maintained, besides the Erie, a dozen useless lateral ditches, and if no sweeping improvements are now to be made, why does New-York need to squeeze as many ducats out of its 'trust' hereafter as it has heretofore? The West, which pays the tolls, would like to know."

LOSS OF AN AMERICAN SHIP AND EIGHT MEN LIVES.

The Norwegian bark Norge, which arrived at Cork Dec. 23, landed two men, the only survivors of the crew of twenty, belonging to the American ship Amity, from Philadelphia, with petroleum. The Amity encountered a storm, became leaky, and began to settle down. The Captain and eight men took to the long boat, which was swamped, and all drowned. The other eleven men got on the forerigging, but were washed off one by one. When the Norge fell in with the Amity her bowsprit only was visible, and four of the Amity's men were clinging to it. A boat put off to the rescue. Two of the men jumped into the water and were saved; the other two refused to jump, and were drowned; when, as happened some hours afterward, the Amity foundered.

SCENES IN SPAIN.

LIFE IN THE TOWN OF HENDAYE.

BASQUE INQUISITIVENESS — LOCAL SHOPKEEPERS — A PROTECTIVE LEAGUE — AMUSEMENTS OF THE PLACE.

From our Special Correspondent.

HENDAYE, Wednesday, Dec. 16, 1874.

There is but one principal street in this little frontier town, and a residence extending over a period of from three to four days is quite sufficient to enable a new arrival to become thoroughly familiar with every face he may see during a walk through the main thoroughfare. At the same time he may be sure that the people he meets have taken the trouble some hours previously to find out all about him, for a more inquisitive race than the Basques—both Spanish and French—I have never yet met. Their curiosity to ascertain who a stranger is, and why he has come into this neighborhood, exceeds all limits; but the strangest feature about it is that they have no desire to keep it secret. A few days since I was in a shop here which seems to drive a good trade, and while making a small purchase a messenger from the railway station brought in a telegram for a friend who was with me. He opened his dispatch and threw the envelope upon the ground, from which it was immediately picked up by one of the employes, who carefully examined the address, then handed it to another shopman, who also read it and afterward passed it over to the wife of the proprietor, who subjected it to a critical examination. My friend had a name which justified them in supposing that he was either an Irishman or a Scotchman, and he was immediately questioned as to his nationality. He was an American, and therefore replied that he was neither English, Scotch, nor Irish, and this seemed to cause some surprise. All thought about serving us with the articles we desired to purchase seemed to be forgotten for the time, and their anxiety was concentrated in the curiosity they evinced to find out what the telegram was about. Suddenly the proprietor brightened up, and, smiling as though he had just been struck with a happy thought, he remarked. "You are an American, are you not, and your dispatch is from America?" My friend answered that his dispatch did not come from America, but gave them no answer about his nationality. They then gave up the matter in despair, and changed the subject by subjecting me to a severe catechising as to where I purchased an "Ulster" I was wearing at the time, what I had paid for it, and whether the price I mentioned was for cash or credit. There seemed but little or no anxiety to push the sale of any articles in the shop. Indeed, the old fellow to whom the shop belonged seemed to consider that he was doing his customers a great favor in selling them the articles of which they were in need.

It was about 10 o'clock in the morning when we visited the store, and it was not then open. After exploring the outside of the house, and knocking in vain at the two doors, we heard some voices behind a window, the shutters of which were closed. We rapped at the window, which was immediately opened, and discovered to us the owner of the store and his family seated at breakfast. In reply to our remark that our object in disturbing him was to make some purchases, he said that he must trouble us to wait for ten minutes or a quarter of an hour, until he had finished his meal. He was breakfasting with the Curé, and added, laughingly, that if he left his clerical guest alone with his wife and family he was afraid he would make love to the good lady. One would not have blamed the Curé either if he had done so, for, like most of the Basque women here, the lady in question was a good-looking one. The proprietor concluded by asking us if we would not step in and join them at their meal, an invitation which we declined. Judging by what we could see and smell from the outside, the good people "fared sumptuously every day," and consequently must make a good profit on the goods they sell. The high price of provisions here does not affect the trades-people very much. As one always observes at English and other watering-places, there seems to be a sort of mutual understanding between the inhabitants of Hendaye that their profits shall be made out of visitors, and not out of each other. It is a kind of arrangement upon the principle of "honor among thieves."

There are no general stores here, but each tradesman confines himself to one particular class of goods, and there is little or no rivalry or opposition. The Basques are noted for a rough kind of politeness, and although the shopkeepers do not press a customer to make additional purchases to those for which he may have asked, they are always very ready to tell you where other articles can be purchased, and in this respect every tradesman in Hendaye, in one particular class of goods, acts as a sort of advertisement to those dealing in another. The hotel-keepers, of course, are good friends with all the shopkeepers, and if a traveler asks where he can purchase any article he may require, the reply is always that they will send for it, and shortly afterward the proprietor of the shop arrives with an assortment of goods from which the traveler may make his choice. In this way do the trades-people of Hendaye work into the hands of one another, and while they would consider it an unpardonable sin to charge a fellow-townsman anything over cost price, they conspire together to get as large a profit as possible out of visitors.

Hendaye is about an hour's journey from Biarritz and Bayonne, and nearer to St. Jean de Luz, which is a place of attraction for visitors, especially for the French, so that numerous strangers visit this interesting little frontier town—interesting, by the way, only on account of the continuance of the civil war, and its vicinity to the scene of operations—consequently Hendaye may be said to be in a very flourishing condition, so far as trade is concerned. The Casino at Fontarabia was a great source of attraction until the authorities shut the place up, and as visitors could not remain there after dusk, in consequence of the town being in a state of siege, they were of course compelled to return to Hendaye; and there being no train for Bayonne, &c., between noon and 9 o'clock in the evening, they had no other course open to them but to dine at one of the three hotels here, or at the railway station. Luckily for Hendaye, when the Casino was closed the bombardment of Irun commenced, and after it was over the "wars and rumors of war" afloat had attracted enough strangers to keep the hotel going.

For the last three weeks reports have been going about that the Carlists contemplated once more attacking Irun, and this has tended to increase the influx of visitors. Now, however, it does not appear probable that there will be any movements here which people stationed on the French side of the Bidassoa will be able to see; but to counterbalance this comes the news that an order has been received at Fontarabia, giving M. Du Pressoir permission to reopen his gambling establishment, which he intends doing as soon as the weather permits him to complete some work which is going on at the Casino with the object of warming it during the cold season, an arrangement which is very desirable, for although the Winter is very short in these regions it is a very wet and chilly one.

The storm which has been raging here for over a week shows no signs of abating, and a dispatch received from St. Jean de Luz a few minutes since, informs me that a telegram there has announced that it is likely to continue for some days. The Pyrenees are covered with snow, and the view of the mountains is a most picturesque one. All warlike operations in this neighborhood have ceased for several days, nature having placed a veto upon anything approaching a resemblance to a military movement. This being the case, it is hardly probable that any action will take place for some days to come, but from recent indications it is probable that the next engagement will be one of considerable importance. The mountain roads are impassable, and there is now no means of communicating with the interior of Spain. Several correspondents made an attempt two days since to reach Estella by way of Bayonne, but had to return here. No coach for Pampeluna can leave Bayonne, for it is reported that in some of the mountain passes the snow is three feet deep. The coach from here has ceased running for some weeks, as there is no knowing how long the Republicans will hold the ferry over the Bidassoa at Puncha, where the passengers used to cross. The water in the Bidassoa is higher than it has been for years, and the only means of getting over into Spain is by way of the railway bridge here, or across the bridge at Behobie. Both of these bridges are strongly fortified, and are in the possession of the Republicans. Under these circumstances it is quite encouraging to know that, though one is cut off from the means of receiving new here, yet there is little or no chance of any military engagement of importance taking place until the weather clears up.

M. GAMBETTA ON THE POLITICAL SITUATION IN FRANCE.

The Paris correspondent of the London *Times* has had an interview with M. Gambetta in the "parliamentary train," of which he gives a full account in the issue of that paper of Dec. 22. "Are you still a partisan of the right of dissolution?" asked the correspondent. "Quite so," he replied. "You are not afraid, then, that the country will elect a Bonapartist Chamber?" "Not at all; I have certain information on that point. If I could show you the electoral map of France, you would see that I am right. If the next Chamber consists like the present, of 750 members, it will contain 190 Bonapartists at the outside, twenty Legitimists, 250 members of the Left Centre—for the two Centres of to-day will form only one—200 members of the Left, and 100 of the Extreme Left." "Do you not think the Radical Party will come back more numerous than that?" "No; for where it is now in possession of the ballot it will have the whole representation of the department. The progress it will have made will be shown there, but it will not radiate from one department to another. It can only gain seats in the departments where it is master; in the other departments it will be in a minority. In short, it will have more seats, but not more departments." At this moment the interlocutors were joined by a deputy of the Right Centre. The conversation turned on the future partial elections, particularly in the election for the Upper Pyrenees to be held on the 31 of January.

"In that department," said the Right Centre Deputy to M. Gambetta, "your candidate will not do, but rather a Thiers candidate." "I do not ask for anything better," replied M. Gambetta; "and it is only through rigorous obedience to a principle that I do not support such a candidate." "So," said I, "when people talk of a Thiers candidature it does not mean an anti Gambetta candidate?" "Certainly not," replied M. Gambetta; "M. Thiers is now more Radical than I am." On our beginning to laugh he added, "It is quite correct; for if M. Thiers rejects the Marshal, while I accept him for seven years, and people may even make him eligible for re-election if they like." "Then why," exclaimed the Right Centre Deputy, "do you not vote for the organization of his powers?" "Why, I ask nothing better than to vote for it. Only let the Constitution be headed the Government of the Republic, the legal Government of France, and I will vote for all the Constitutions you like, and, probably, even for more stringent a Constitution than you would like." "Yes, but you know," rejoined the Right Centre Deputy, "that we cannot vote for that preamble. You will recall the 1849, apropos of the bill on the Quaestors; you will refuse to vote and you will make the Empire come back." "I protest against that comparison," exclaimed M. Gambetta; "my policy no more resembles M. Ledru Rollin's than that of the Mountain of 1849 resembles the policy of the group to which I have the honor to belong. We shall not make the Empire come back, you may rely on it." "Allow me," I said, "to ask one question. Since you accept the Marshal, why are you unwilling to discuss a constitution? You will always be free to vote only for such a constitution as you approve." "Because," he replied, "I do not want the Republican Party to have the appearance of adhering, even tacitly, to a discussion which will neither be sincere nor decisive."

The conversation again turned upon what M. Gambetta had said about M. Thiers. "I go further than M. Thiers," said M. Gambetta "because I accept the Marshal."

"That is because," said I, "you are not so old as he is." "You can wait." "That is not the reason," he replied. "If he were younger he would be still more ardent. The ashes to power, it is because he knows his own worth, and thinks himself fitter to govern than any other." "Then why," said the Right Centre Deputy, "did he resign?" "It was a great mistake," rejoined M. Gambetta. "He should have retained office, taken a Cabinet from the Right, and waited till that Cabinet, which was to render his Presidency impossible, had fallen amid the applause of the country, and thus restored him his freedom of action. But that is past, and now it must be understood that we are more disposed than he is to accept the Marshal." "Allow me," I interposed, "to offer an objection. You say it is true that the Republic once sincerely voted, you will accept the Marshal, and let the Conservatives prevent it from diverging. You speak in your own name. You proved, indeed, by your recent attitude that you had a political mind, even a flexible mind, for you became moderate without losing your influence with your party. But, in spite of that influence, you know very well that your party is disciplined only before victory, and that you would not be master of it afterward. Are you not afraid that the Republic once recognized as the legal Government, a unanimous cry would be raised by the Republicans from one end of the country to the other, and that they would say to the Conservatives, 'Now that the Republic is voted, retire; you are not Republicans?'" "I will answer you frankly," returned M. Gambetta; "you are right. There is the danger; but, to reassure themselves, the Conservatives have the example of M. Thiers, M. Périer, and all who have rallied to the Republic, and thereby immediately acquired a genuine popularity among the Republicans. Nobody thinks of thwarting them; we all think of supporting them. If the Conservatives honestly exercise the Republican power, none of us will think of disputing their possession of it. We are ready, moreover, to reassure them; we are ready to discuss with them a programme of government on all governmental questions, and to agree on such a programme, taking account of their sympathies, leanings, and natures. We will maintain that programme for seven years, for people cannot treat for eternity. For seven years they may set up this programme against claims which they considered inadmissible. At the end of that time, they having had power in their hands, it would be for them to have governed so as to retain it. We should not be able to oppose. In this way, I think, I have answered your objection, the validity of which I have admitted."

THE CAUSE OF THE POPE.

Writing from Rome, Dec. 18, the corre

CURRENT LITERATURE.

THE EMIGRANT LASSIE.

BY JOHN STUART BLACKIE.

(The following lines contain the simple unadorned statement of a fact in the experience of a friend, who is fond of wandering in the Highland glens.)

As I came wandering down Glen Spean.
Where the braes are green and grassy,
With my light step I overtook
A weary-footed lassie.

She had one bundle on her back,
Another in her hand,
And she walked as one who was full loath
To travel from the land.

Quoth I, "My bonnie lass!"—for she
Had hair of flowing gold,
And dark brown eyes, and dainty limbs,
Right pleasant to behold—

"My bonnie lass, what ail'eth thee,
On this bright Summer day,
To travel sad and shoeless thus
Upon the stony way?

I'm fresh and strong, and stoutly shod,
And thou art burdened so;
March lightly now, and let me bear
The bundles as we go."

"No, no!" she said, "that may not be;
What's mine is mine to bear;
Of good or ill, as God may will,
I take my portioned share."

"But you have two and I have none;
One burden give to me;
I'll take that bundle from thy back
That heavier seems to be."

"No, no!" she said; "*this*, if you will,
That holds—no hand but mine
May bear its weight from dear Glen Spean
Cross the Atlantic brine!"

"Well, well! but tell me what may be
With in that precious load
Which thou dost bear with such fine care
Along the dusty road?

Belike it is some present rare
From friend in parting hour;
Perhaps, as prudent maidens' wont,
Thou tak'st with thee thy dower."

She drooped her head, and with her han
She gave a mournful wave:
"Oh, do not jest, dear sir!—it is
Turf from my mother's grave!"

I spoke no word: we sat and wept
By the road-side together;
No purer dew on that bright day
Was dropt upon the heather.

—*Good Words.*

TOLD ON CHRISTMAS EVE.

CHAPTER I.

VIOLET SILVER.

It had its commencement like a romance of Fairy Land, among the roses and in the moonlight.

A great emerald bank overhung a vast lake, fringed at its foot with a golden beach, and crowned with great pines, mingling their spicy incense with the breath of the roses, swinging their crimson blossoms in the garden midway up the steep, where, on a natural terrace, glimmered the white walls of a pretty house.

A wide lawn sloped to the beach, bordered with guelder-rose trees and acacias, shedding pearly globes and drooping feathery blooms in the air, heavy with dewy perfume; and two or three beeches echoed back the sleepy murmur of the lake, as their leaves rustled softly in the passing wind.

From this wide lawn a maze of winding paths led in and out through glowing alleys of roses. Every kind of rose that ever blushed beneath the sun, or gently swayed in the Summer breeze, was there. Hence it was that Mr. Arnold Silver's pretty villa by the inland lake was called "The Roses."

A hedge of dwarf myrtle inclosed this radiant spot; and, for artistic contrast with the masses of bloom within, some melancholy yew-trees stood darkly beyond the gates. This night the scene was inexpressibly beautiful. The moonlight poured down a flood of pale silver radiance, mingling with the traces of the sunset in the West, the pink hue deepening to amethyst where it kissed the lake; and overhead was the deep blue of the sky, decked with shining stars.

Far out on the lake a boat glided phantom-like across the diamond track of the moonlight which seemed leading to the mysterious amethyst gates of the dim horizon. The lights of the villa, poised midway up the hill, sent lances of red light deep into the placid bosom of the night, whose wind was odorous with the scent of flowers.

A fountain opposite the drawing-room windows threw a column of water upward, its spray, as it fell again, flashing like diamonds in the moonlight. And on the basin's marble margin stood a tall slender girl in a white dress, her arm over the neck of a white doe, at the feet of which crouched a fawn with great dusky eyes, and a collar tinkling with silver bells round its graceful neck.

This was Violet Silver, the only child and heiress of Arnold Silver, the younger of those two great merchants, "Silver Brothers," who, as the fairy tales say, "might have eaten gold every day," or, like the famous king and queen, have occupied themselves principally in "counting out their money," and found plenty of work at the same pleasant task.

Violet looked in the moonlight what the "garish day" would still behold her, a beautiful girl of winning loveliness, perfect in form and feature. Tall and lithe was she, with a pure face of delicate hue and contour, and dark blue eyes that could either flash or smile.

As she stood there, still as a statue under the moon, the two dumb companions at her feet, they looked like some lovely group of enchanted creatures suddenly turned to forms of pearl by the potent wave of a genie's hand.

Heaven alone knows what sublime thoughts made the girl's countenance so angelic, as her shining eyes went from star to star, her lips parted with breathless thought.

"Fairy," she said, coming out of her reverie, and patting the velvet skin of the snowy doe with her hand, "we like the moonlight sometimes, don't we? Especially when there are no ridiculous Charlies near to talk nonsense and disturb our meditations. Ah, 'mention an angel, and hear the flutter of its wings!'" she broke off. "Speak of Charlie, and smell his cigar!"

Charles Silver, her cousin, was emerging from the open French window of the dining-room. She turned to regard him with a glance curiously compounded of sunshine and shade—a subtle shade, not tangible enough to be called melancholy, but something very like it, in her great violet eyes.

He did not speak as he came up to her, but seated himself on the marble brim in silence. She caught the look of vexation on his countenance.

"There is something the matter, Charlie!" said she. "It is nothing about *that*, is it?"

"It is just about that," replied Charles Silver, ruefully. "The two have been at it, hammer and tongs, ever since you left the table! For my benefit, of course." And Mr. Charles Silver groaned, and ran his fingers desperately through his crisp brown hair.

"Well," said Violet, with spirit, "I suppose *I* am to be consulted in the affair. I wonder at papa!" and a great flush swept over her face and neck, and stained the pretty hand lying on Fairy's collar.

"You'd wonder more had you been there," remarked Charlie, gloomily. "We are to be married on Christmas Day, my young lady."

"What?" demanded Violet.

"I shall be of age then, you know."

"*What?*" repeated Violet, her bosom heaving, her eyes flashing, her cheeks flaming like scarlet roses.

"It is perfectly true!" said Charles. "I'm sure I am as sorry for the worry as you can be, Violet."

"You *don't* think I am going to marry you, do you, Sir?"

"They don't want either of us to think at all, as it seems to me," was his answer. "It is awfully hard on us both, and—and on Daisy too, you know."

"What did papa say?" demanded Violet, imperiously. "Though you *are* my cousin, I think you are a coward, Charles Silver!"

"Do you? Sorry for that. Uncle Arnold held out a little; he thought we might be allowed a voice in the matter, you and I. But—you know my father, Violet! He put on one of those iron looks; and—you needn't call a fellow names. I'd like very much to see *you* tell my father to his face that you'd not do as he wished."

"Oh!" said Violet, stretching out her round white arm like a young sibyl, her nostrils dilating as though there were the breath of coming war in the air, "*I* am not his daughter, and I am not afraid. If you promise faithfully to be as brave as I am, why—you will marry Daisy Leighton in time."

"I'll promise anything you like," said Charles. "As to Daisy, I intend to marry her. But for her I should only have been too glad to take you, Violet. A fellow can't help these things, you know."

"Thank you!" said Violet, with superb disdain, elevating her pretty nose toward the stars. "You need not apologize."

"The worst of it is, I dare not say a word to Daisy while things are in this state," grumbled he. "It might lead to no end of a complication."

"As to me," said Violet, fractiously, "I—I shall go into a convent or something, as soon as you are married, and

'With my hand on my bosom, my head on my knee,
Sing willow, willow, willow.'"

"Oh, come," said Charlie, much aggrieved at the tone; "what with you and my father, I shall begin to wish I were dead. I'll go for a sailor!"

"Will you?"

"You know, Violet, I care for you as though you were my sister; and you turn me into ridicule without mercy! If I had a huge black mustache like *some* people, it would be different!" he added significantly. "*I* know. *I* have seen."

Violet turned very pale in the moonlight. She sank down on the ledge of the fountain beside her cousin, and taking his hand between her soft palms, laid her pretty cheek against it.

"Charlie, dear," she said softly, "you have just said you are fond of me."

"Yes," said Charlie, considerably mollified. "I am fonder of you than of any one in the world—Daisy excepted."

"Then you must promise never, never, never to—to allude to that again. Think of the fuss there'd be! Be quiet, Charles! *you* must not turn against me. I'll tell about you and Daisy if you do. You have your secrets, Sir, and surely I may have mine. Promise—until I give you leave."

"I promise," said Charles Silver, who was the easiest-natured fellow in the world. "But, Violet, do you think it's just the thing to meet him in the way you do? 'Nobody knows the man.'"

Violet turned to caress Fairy, and so hid her bright blush from her cousin.

"Never mind, Charlie," she said, with a little quiver in her sweet young voice; you may be quite at rest. You *know* I would not do anything that's wrong!"

"Of course, I know that."

"Very well. Then, as I say, you may be at rest. Go in and play your evening game at chess with Daisy, there's a good fellow; if we both stay out they may miss us. Oh, Charles!" she added, with impressive, almost solemn earnestness, as she took both his hands, "you do not know all the interests that are at stake. Papa and Uncle Aurelius must suspect nothing."

"I don't like mysteries," returned Charles Silver. "But I suppose I must depend upon you, Violet."

"You *may*," was the emphatic answer. And Violet once more laid her hand on Fairy's neck, while the fawn gambolled around, shaking airy peals from the silver bells.

Charles Silver, throwing away the end of his cigar, returned to the house. He pushed back the lace draperies of the drawing-room window, and stood at the shoulder of a tiny little creature, a girl of eighteen, with a Zingaree-like face, and great, melancholy, dark eyes. She was sitting on a low ottoman, gazing blankly at the opposite wall, her slender brown hands clasped idly on a heap of glowing roses, which she had been pulling from a Sèvres vase on a marble stand at her side. This was Daisy Leighton. She was in deep mourning, and looked a pathetic, dark little phantom in the glow and brightness of the pretty room. On the death of her father, she had come to the house of her guardian, Mr. Arnold Silver. That was only three months ago; and she and Charles had employed the time in falling in love with each other—which would have been regarded as high treason by the authorities, and the young people knew it.

She heard Charles Silver's step, and a slight quiver ran through her slender frame, and a dusky rose crept into her lovely face, but she did not turn until he touched her arm very lightly. Then she slowly moved her eyes to his handsome young face. He was very like Violet, only that the brow was hardly so wide, or the outline of the chin at once so firm and delicate. It was a pleasant, lovable face, however, frank and bright, as the face of the young should be; but a shadow darkened it as Daisy Leighton's eyes met his. He drew back a little from her, her face was so full of fire, such a tempest of jealous rage lightened her dilated eyes. The fact was, things had been all at cross-purposes lately, and Daisy had caught up the idea that Charles had been only playing with her—that he had deserted her for his cousin.

Daisy rose, letting the roses fall in a mass to the carpet. She flung out her little hand, as though appealing against him.

"Traitor!" she said, between her little white teeth, "coward and traitor! I saw you with her by the fountain."

Charlie's dark blue eyes assumed a look of mingled anger and perplexity.

"Upon my word, Daisy!" he said in a low tone, "what next? I am quite tired of these fits of temper. Is it jealousy?—of Violet? What a silly child you are!"

She looked at him with a singular smile, her dark face paling to the very lips. Charles took her hands tenderly in his; he stooped until his brown hair touched hers. There could be no mistake made by any spectator then as to where his true love was given.

And, unfortunately, there was a spectator. His father had entered silently, and stood there in the shade of the large room, looking on.

Aurelius Silver was a stern-looking man, with a face such as one sees on an old Roman medal, and thick masses of sparkling silver hair clustering round his lofty brow. One could imagine him that Roman who gave his son, fresh from a glorious victory, to the sword of the executioner. His eagle eyes took in the agitation of Charles and Daisy at a glance; he saw how it was: and in his bitter anger, suppressing his furious passion, he stole away, to give vent to that passion out of doors, and to *think*.

The lovers had not perceived him. Charles, indeed, was wholly taken up with Daisy. Never had he seen her like this before—and he resented it—resented her want of confidence in him. It is true that he could not speak to any purpose, for he was not sure how events might turn out, or that Daisy could ever be his, and he was not one to fly in the face of a father's mandate. All *that* kept him from speaking. A sharpish quarrel ensued.

"Listen to me, Daisy," he said at length. "I cannot help myself just now—I am not my own master; but you may be sure—"

No, she would not listen. Passion overmastered her. She tore the little brown fingers from his grasp, and with an inarticulate cry of emotional rage sprang through the open window and fled out into the moonlight.

Charles would not go after her. His first thought was of Violet.

"I hope they'll not meet," he said to himself, as he stood outside the glass doors. "They might come to an issue if they did, in Daisy's present temper. What in the world possesses her?"

At that moment, as he looked across the moonlit lawn, it seemed to him as though a cry came to his ears from the direction of the lake. He listened, but it was not repeated. And just then Violet came swiftly toward him from an opposite direction, tall and white as a spirit in her fluttering, misty dress.

CHAPTER II.

AU REVOIR.

Mr. Silver, in his icy rage, strode out into the moonlight at a sharp pace, taking the direction of the lake. The scene he had just witnessed, the knowledge that had burst upon him, filled his whole soul with the intensest wrath. For years and years it had been his darling wish to see his son and niece united; not more for the sake of uniting the large fortune of the Brothers Silver, than because he so loved Violet.

He loved his son with a great love, and he coveted Violet for him. There had been another son once, but he "was not:" one many years older than Charles; Charles alone remained to him, and on him was concentrated all his affection. Just at the point when success had crowned his wishes—for his brother Arnold had, this very self-same evening, given consent to the marriage—it was maddening to find his airy fabric of hope dashed to the ground by the glancing wing of the bright little creature who had flitted so inopportunely across his path.

"Why," he said to himself, as his black shadow swiftly traversed the pearly light, bathing the emerald slope of the lawn, "I could crush her with a touch! And yet I foresee as exhausting a conflict with her as with a simoom in the desert, and perhaps as hopeless. Charles, too! But I don't so much blame him. She has bewitched him. I wish she had never come here!"

A grim smile darkened rather than brightened his majestic face, and he closed his iron lips until the fine curves of the resolute mouth were lost in one firm bar, as unyielding as death itself. Onward he strode, his step fiercer and more fierce.

"Daisy Leighton must be got rid of," he continued, silently. "I have never yielded a jot of my will yet to mortal, and it would be strange indeed if the folly of a boy and girl should turn me aside from the purpose of my life—that of joining the house and fortune of my brother with my own. Yes; I must disclose to Arnold what I have discovered, and get him to appoint some other home for her."

A narrow path led him through the grove of willows to the border of the lake. It was darker here; the trees hid the moon. Mr. Silver was no longer angry. He had taken his rage by the throat and planted his foot upon it, after the fashion he had followed with fate itself in his busy life. He was even a little amused with himself for his brief passion. "One would almost imagine it a thing of consequence," he said to himself; "the poor young simpletons! It is only boy and girl fancy."

Pushing aside the screen of drooping willow boughs, he was about to step downward on the little beach, glistening with its golden sand under the moonbeams, when, as though stung by an adder, he drew back into the impenetrable shade of the clustering trees, amid which his face gleamed as though hewn from ivory. All his fierce anger had gathered again, its intensity nearly paralyzing him. But for that, he would immediately have revealed himself; his haughty spirit spurned the idea of spying on the actions of others.

A light boat trembled on the edge of the water lower down, partially shaded by the overhanging willow branches. In it stood a man, young and handsome, as it seemed to him—a man with a black beard and mustache, who was pushing it out from the shore. As Mr. Silver looked, it freed itself from the tiny beach, and tossed on the long, purple, voiceless swell of the lake. The man turned his dark, handsome face, his lustrous eyes, to the shore.

"Good-by, my love!" he said in a low and cautious voice; and a white-robed girl kissed both her hands to him, her deep eyes radiant, her rosy lips quivering and smiling. It was Violet Silver.

"Au revoir: not good-by," she whispered. She turned and fled quickly toward the house, her golden hair and her white dress drifting out behind her like vapor. And the man, with a long, powerful stroke of his oar, swept along under the bank, and, turning the sharp curve there, was lost to sight.

Aurelius Silver drew a heavy breath, which almost seemed to tear the muscles of his vast chest. A complication had arisen which, in one glance, he saw could hardly fail of ruining his hopes, unless indeed his action was prompt, vigorous, and—unsparing. And of all men who ever tore the golden prize from the hand of fortune, Aurelius Silver knew how to be unsparing to others and to himself. He had rarely done a generous deed, but he had never done a dishonorable one. Some natures resemble masses of grim rock threaded with veins of gold, but to the cold walls of which no tender parasite clings, no vine of beauty connects them with the warmth and sunshine of human life. Mr. Silver neither gave nor expected sympathy. He had his virtues, but they were of the high Roman sort. He was honorable, he was temperate, he was courageous. The hidden fire which lurks in man, as in nature, was there, but it neither brightened his life nor that of others.

"So!" he said, with a deep breath. "Violet also!"

The expression of his face boded but little good toward the girl. She was the only creature he had permitted himself to love, Charles excepted; and for the very reason that she was dear to him, he absolutely hated her in this moment, when he found her young spirit had treed itself from the shackles of his will.

Turning to the left, he walked along the edge of the bank. The strip of beach below dwindled to a mere golden thread. The lake was very deep just here. Aurelius Silver glanced back at his brother's house. Against the lights in the drawing-room beyond the rose garden, the fountain threw up its diamond spray; and, against it again, a little black form seemed to be rushing down frantically like a phantom. It was Daisy Leighton. She was coming toward where Mr. Silver stood; and all his dreadful anger was again aroused as he recognized her.

It all passed in a moment. Whether the girl could not stop herself in time; whether her foot slipped at the bank's edge; or whether in her uncontrollable passion she flung herself forward, could not be told; but there she was, in the lake below, just beneath Aurelius Silver.

One wild cry, one glimpse of her ghastly little face and flashing eyes; one short, sharp struggle with the treacherous water; and then all was still as before, save that widening rings of silver chased each other out across the lake, and drove its waters lapping in sudden life over the belt of sand.

A mighty shudder ran through the vast frame of Aurelius Silver. He was a strong swimmer: what ailed him that he made no effort to save the distraught child from the grave she had fallen into? In that moment, a demon spoke to his soul. "Oh, man, why trouble thyself? Fate has crushed this one obstacle out of thy path. Make her evil thy good."

Was there a despairing voice abroad, sighing through the pines and across the purple, silver-crested swells of the lake, sighing over the sudden fall of him who had walked well among men from the high throne of his boasted honor? Were the stars changed to orbs of fire and blood, as his burning eyes turned toward them?

With his silver hair lifting itself stiffly from his head, with a hand of fire grasping his heart, with eyes that saw and ears that heard not, Aurelius Silver turned away from the lake.

CHAPTER III.

"LORD, KEEP MY MEMORY GREEN!"

An old stone house standing outside a town at least a hundred miles away from the beautiful Summer villa of Arnold Silver. A house standing back from the highway and flanked with great dark trees, old and weird-looking as those in Gustave Doré's picture of the "Hewing of the Cedars for the Temple." The mansion itself lay square, massive, low-browed; its walls were of granite, with that faint suggestion of rose and aqua-marine flowing through the stone which renders some of those old buildings so mellow and picturesque. The windows were small and formal; the chimneys, standing up against the sky, cowled and hooded like hermits on a mountain top; and from the great eaves, giant lances of diamond, the handiwork of the fairy armorer King Frost, were hanging like the spears of Titans in some enchanted land. A carriage-drive swept round from the great gates of sombre bronze to the stone step, guarded on either side by a stone lion couchant, of an amiable, not to say benevolent aspect. A hall-door of polished oak stood hospitably open in the Winter's sun.

This was the home of the elder brother, Aurelius Silver. It was the custom of the two families to spend the Winter together here, and the Summer at the villa of the younger, Arnold.

But they had quitted the villa earlier than usual this year. There was a certain night in August that had struck its inmates with perplexity, if not terror. Margaret Leighton—or Daisy, as they fondly called her—had disappeared. After a quarrel with Charles—he had confessed to that—she tore from him in a little tempest of fury. Only to the garden, as he supposed, to cool herself by the fountain, or amid the roses; but she had never come back again. From that mysterious hour she had disappeared. Charles and Violet had remained together in the drawing-room talking; talking, and waiting for her to make her appearance; how long they scarcely knew. But she did not come. Mr. Arnold Silver had gone to rest straight from the dinner-table that night, not being well. Mr. Silver (Aurelius) had chanced to take a long country walk that night; the night was so fine that it tempted him, he told them when he came in—and that was not until close upon midnight. Where was Daisy, they asked him—for Charles and Violet had taken up the notion that the two absent ones must be strolling about together. Daisy? retorted Mr. Silver, at the question—what should he know about Daisy? But that he caught up some alarm in regard to her was evident, for his face turned strangely pale.

Well, from that hour no trace of Daisy had been found. The family and the servants were searching about all night, Charles in a distracted state, but they did not find her. They never had found her. What her fate was could not be conjectured with any certainty: some thought she had run away; others cast dim fears toward the lake. Aurelius Silver never enlightened them, nor told a hint of the grave secret the lake might have disclosed.

And when all search was abandoned as hopeless, they had quitted the villa, which somehow seemed full of discomfort, for the distant Winter mansion. And the weeks had gone on, and this was Christmas Eve. Little more had been said about the union of the two cousins; even Mr. Silver no longer urged it.

In the dining-room of this fine old house sat Violet Silver, making wreaths of holly and ivy.

Violet sighed as she worked. The girl's face was changed in some subtle way since that night we saw her by the fountain. A shade more pensive, a thought less radiant, the eyes deeper in expression, the lips parting less readily in laughter and speech: such was the change. The same change, but intensified a hundredfold, was repeated in Charlie Silver's countenance. He sat near her, watching in silence her long, rosy fingers as they twined the emerald sprays into a long, clustering wreath, flecked here and there with the fire of scarlet berries, dug from beneath the white drifts in the woods.

His face was indescribably changed. The features were sharper, the glance of the eye firmer, the lines of the mouth and chin more resolute and decided. The face, which had been like Violet's, had developed more into a resemblance to Aurelius Silver. A gracious likeness though; retaining what was finest and noblest in the older face, yet lacking the cold and commanding expression which gleamed icily in its large and stern eyes.

There were lines in Charlie's forehead now. Four months previously he had hardly looked his age; now he looked ten years older.

"Charlie, how idle you are!" said Violet, breaking a long pause. "Hand me some more sprays of holly, please. There, how do you like my wreath?"

"Very well," said Charlie, listlessly obeying the mandate. "What a pretty idyll of Christmas Eve you make, Violet," he added, looking at her. "You have a gracious beauty about you, such as the spirit of the day should have."

"Thanks! I like compliments," said Violet, very sincerely. "You are as good-looking as I am, Charlie; and this wreath is destined to frame our great-grandmother yonder. How droll she looks in that powdered wig and brocaded dress, simpering at her woolly flock! What flourishing ideas of Arcadia those dear old people must have had!"

The wreath was finished. Charles Silver called for some steps, and mounted to festoon the wreath round the massive old frame of the portrait, which hung over the carved mantelpiece. Violet stood by to watch him. There was an unusual sadness in both of them to-day, for they were about to separate. She resumed her seat, and began another wreath.

"I always detest the perfume of this burning wood," she exclaimed impatiently, as Charles came back to his chair. "Do you know, if Uncle Aurelius hadn't developed an extraordinary enthusiasm for Christmas decorations, I should not have had the heart to undertake them this year."

"I can imagine that," said Charles, quietly.

"Your going away is the worst of all, Charlie."

"It is very pleasant to know that I shall have some one to think kindly and lovingly of me when I am away," he observed. "I can quite understand that quaint old prayer, 'Lord, keep my memory green!'"

"Charlie!" said Violet, with startled eyes, "you speak as if you never meant to return to us! Surely you are not going from us with that idea in your mind? Think of your father."

"Think of you all, you mean, Violet," he answered, sadly. "I cannot control fate, child. An impression seems to lie on my mind that I may never return."

"Then why, oh! why do you go?"

"I must go, Violet; I cannot rest here. Every hour I am reminded of *her*. There's nothing for me but change. Heaven above knows how I loved her, and what her strange loss has been to me!

Violet's hot tears fell on the wreath. But she dashed them away with her hand, and looked at him hopefully.

"Time," she said, "will bring its cure. You are so very young, Charlie!"

"Not too young 'to keep my memory green,'" he said, repeating his former words softly. "In time, in time, I may come back again, dear. You will be a happy wife then, with children about your knees."

He rose as he spoke and left the room, wishing her good-by until dinner-time. She worked on soberly until her wreaths were finished, and then went up to her chamber, carrying some sprays of holly with her that her maid was to dispose of on her white dinner dress.

But Violet was very restless. She knew why. A task which she had undertaken was to be performed that evening; and she knew not whether it would turn out for good or for ill.

"I had thought to have Daisy with me this Christmas," she sighed softly to herself. "Oh, what was become of her? Is she in death, or in life?"

Her thoughts were becoming painful. Quitting her chamber, she went down stairs again. The great square hall had its Christmas draperies of green wreaths and holly-berries, and was flooded with the crimson firelight from its wide hearth. Violet drew back into the shade to admire the effect of the decorations, which had been done by the servants.

Suddenly the house was startled by a shriek, and a cry, and a fall. Servants and others rushed into the hall whence it came, and there found Violet. She lay on the floor, like an image of snow, perfectly unconscious, a look of intensest horror frozen on her lovely face.

"I never knew her to faint before," said Arnold Silver, quaking in every limb, as Aurelius lifted her from the ground and carried her into the dining-room. "My darling! what can have happened?"

"Nothing," said Aurelius, quietly. "Because she never has fainted, there is no reason why she should not do so. Violet has not seemed herself of late."

He laid her very tenderly and gently on a couch, touching her cheek caressingly with his fingers as he did so.

"She is reviving," he said quietly. "Stand back, Arnold. Give her air."

"My precious one, what was it?" questioned her father. "Were you alarmed by anything?"

"Oh! father, I don't know what it was," wailed Violet. "I—I think I must have fallen into a dream. If you will take me up to my room, I'll lie down till dinner-time."

Arnold Silver took her, and charged her maid not to leave the chamber.

CHAPTER IV.

VIOLET'S STORY.

"And so, it being Christmas Eve," said Violet, "and just our own four selves here, I will tell you a story."

It was after dinner. The dessert was on the table; wine flushing redly, a glow of rare exotics in a great silver basket, fruit blushing in dainty Sèvres dishes. Saucy pages of the same priceless ware held aloft baskets of grapes, glistening like amethysts and emeralds in the wax lights.

The Silvers had drawn from the table and were gathered round the fire, which burned royally, as a Christmas fire should. In its full glow sat Violet at her father's feet, looking, in her white robes with their dainty green and red sprays, like a lovely idyll of the season, as Charles had phrased it. She was quite herself again, had apparently forgotten the fainting fit and its cause; and the holly-berries, gleaming in the glossy coronal of her golden hair, were not more vividly crimson than her cheeks and lips. Her eyes were starry, shining, dilated, wonderful in their rapid changes of expression, as she glanced from one to the other of the group. She looked at Aurelius Silver, as he sat on the opposite side of the hearth, his noble head and face thrown finely out by the ruby velvet back of the deep chair in which he sat, and she smiled as she spoke. She held in her hand a fan of white feathers, the handle of rubies and dead gold, and when she drooped her head its shade fell across her face.

"A story!" said her father, smiling. "And why not, my dear? It is a time-honored custom at Christmas-tide. Do you remember, Aurelius, how our poor father and mother used to tell us youngsters Christmas-tales, in this very room?"

"I remember," said Aurelius Silver, quietly.

"And now we had Mère Margaton's tales of the Loup-Garou and Feu-follet, in the nursery?" continued Arnold, "and how frightened I used to be? *You* were not. You never feared anything during the whole course of your existence, I do believe, Aurelius."

Aurelius Silver started very slightly, and looked at his brother; but his answer was spoken in his usual composed tones.

"Let us hear Violet's story, by all means. It is not likely to be very fearful, is it, Pussy?"

"No," cried Violet, eagerly, "it is a story about people like ourselves. There could be nothing very fearful about *us*, for instance; could there, Uncle Aurelius?"

"No," said Aurelius, smiling strangely, as he looked into the fire. "We are anciently respectable, commonplace members of the community. Far above comment. Infinitely beyond temptation."

"Go, on, Violet," said Charles, breaking the silence and glancing at his father, whose voice had a curious ring in it. Indeed, of late, a certain strangeness had crept into the life and manners of Aurelius Silver, which those about him had not failed to notice and wonder at.

Until this Winter, Arnold Silver had been alone in the almost princely benevolence which had made the name of Silver revered and blest amid the poor; but lately the elder brother had outdone him in generosity. If possible he was quieter, more reticent than ever, though at times a strange disturbance seemed to reign in his soul, and he would retire from the society of the family, remaining secluded for many hours at a stretch in his library.

How often the memory of that starlit and peaceful night, when he had turned his back upon the lake, and on one drowning there, had flashed upon his remorseful soul! The secret of that temptation lay buried within his own breast; buried, he hoped, forever. This upas-tree memory had borne some good fruit. When he found Charles firm as a rock in his determination to remain faithful to the memory of Daisy Leighton, he had not urged him to break that determination, or threatened, or disowned him, as most assuredly he would have once done. He had not even opposed his son's projected departure, which was to take place at the New Year, but quietly watched the preparations for it.

"Wait until the year is out," he had said to Charles, emphatically and firmly. "If you retain the same mind then, I will say no more. But until then, stay where you are. You are very young, Charles, and youth is the changeful April time of a man's life. Wait."

And Charles had waited, but he had not changed at all. He meant to go as soon as the New Year came in. He meant to remain true to Daisy Leighton; and through his soul there ever rang an appealing and plaintive voice, "Keep my memory green!"

"Papa!" said Violet, putting her hand on her father's, and turning her wistful eyes to his, "in my story there is a girl, like me, and perhaps you will think her wicked and ungrateful to her father, who is just like you; but you will hear all about her quite to the end before you say so. Won't you, papa?"

"If she is like my little girl, she can't be *very* bad," said Arnold Silver, laughing proudly, and patting her pretty hand. "Go on, my dear, we are all anxiety to hear this tale."

Violet turned her face from theirs, clasped her hands on her lap, and fixed her eyes musingly on the leaping amethyst and molten gold of the flames, licking the great sides of the logs on the huge andirons, and began her tale. In her voice there was something strangely timorous, just as though she feared to tell it.

"Some years ago there were two brothers, partners in a great business, just, papa, as you and Uncle Aurelius are; and one of them had two sons, and the other only one little child, a girl; and the two mothers were dead. Now, the elder brother, the father of the two boys, was a strange man, cold and haughty and like iron in everything he said and did; and when his wife died—he was very fond of her—he—"

"What are you telling?" interrupted Mr. Silver.

"Hear me to the end, please, Uncle Aurelius."

"Yes, yes, the tale must be heard to the end," put in Arnold Silver. And Violet went on.

"This elder brother grew colder and harder, though I know it was only pride; in his heart he was good. His eldest son, who was many years older than the other, was like the dear mother who had died, and a generous, high-spirited lad, and I am *quite* sure all the time the father hardly seemed to know he had a son; he was proud and fond of his boy, only it was not his way to show his heart to the world. But he must have loved him. Don't you think so, papa?"

"I suppose so, Pussy," said Arnold Silver, very soberly, and looking straight at the fire. Aurelius never spoke. His face lay in the shadow cast by the marble pillars of the mantelpiece. Violet glanced at him. Her eyes were very bright; her sweet young voice was steady and clear as silver as she resumed her story.

"How much that poor young man was to be pitied!—that firstborn-son! He was left so much to himself; his father was so absorbed in his own business that he had no time to see the evil which was gathering around the lad—and he was only eighteen. Had he seen it, he would have been so angry that he might not have moved a finger to save him. Not that he meant to be cruel; you must not think that for a moment; but he said and thought that, for a truly honorable and upright nature, there could be no such thing as temptation."

Aurelius Silver winced; and drew his face further into the shade.

"He said that those who fell, fell from inclination; and as they fell, so, for him, should they lie. For it had come about that his son had done something very, very wrong about money matters; that he might have been tried for. Are you listening, papa?"

Arnold Silver slightly nodded, but spoke not. He was looking as though he did not much like the tale.

"Well, the boy's father quietly turned him adrift, 'to herd,' as he said, 'with the dregs of the earth his crime had leveled him to.' He was cold and impassive still, as I have heard. I don't believe he even *seemed* angry; but none of us can fancy what he felt in his secret soul. He *must* have thought that, perhaps, if he had acted differently himself, watched and guarded the boy from corrupt influences, this would not have happened; and oh, how dreadful that thought must have been! But the boy disappeared."

"And thus your story ends," said Aurelius Silver impatiently, as though he wished it over.

"No, Uncle Aurelius, it has a sequel. Had it ended there, I should never have told it. Perhaps never have known it."

"Go on, Violet," said Charles, who was staring at her with all the earnestness of his deep-blue eyes.

"The son went on board ship, and escaped to another country. There he turned over a new leaf, and began to work in earnest. It was California—where fortunes are to be made for the trying. He had a great and a good heart, this son, and it carried him on eagle wings, far above the associations, such as they were, of his former life. For years he battled on manfully, and he gained fortune; and in the faint hope that his father had forgotten all but that he was his eldest son, he turned his steps homeward and came back over the seas."

Violet stopped; it seemed from emotion. Her cheeks were flushing and paling.

"He came back safely, this son, and went to his own home; not openly, but cautiously; in secret, that is. There he met his cousin, now a woman grown, how it does not matter; and oh! papa, she was very, very like me; but don't begin to hate her just yet; and he begged that she would try to soften his father toward him; and, from one thing to another, the girl and he got to—to love each other better than all the world. They met very often, but he had to go away up to town about his affairs more than once, and while he was there the last time, the family went away from their pretty Summer villa; and he and she did not meet again until a few days ago. And she promised and promised to beg his father to forgive him; but she was such a coward," cried Violet, bursting into tears, "as well as such a wicked, deceitful thing to her own father, who was the best and dearest in the whole wide world, that she put off speaking until Christmas Eve; and, oh! uncle, that's—that's the story, and you must finish it."

Violet turned, fell into her father's arms, which folded tightly about her, and hid her face amid the ruffles decorating his expansive chest.

"Aurelius Silver," said Arnold, solemnly, as Violet trembled in his arms, "I charge you to finish it as your heart and conscience urge you to do. I gather that the young man is here. Dear Aurie!—as we used to call him. Remember how we loved him!"

A peculiar smile, gracious yet shadowed, crossed the lofty face of Aurelius Silver. He rose and came toward them.

"Doubly my daughter!" he said, taking Violet into his arms, and kissing her pure, young brow; "the good angel of this Christmas Eve. You shall finish your Christmas tale as you will."

"Papa, dear," cried Violet, the tears dropping, "tell me that you don't hate me for my dreadful deceit. I could not help it; indeed I could not."

"I shall get over it in time, I dare say, Pussy," replied he with twinkling eyes. "Did you know of this, Charles?"

"Partly," replied Charles. "I did not know until now that he was my brother. To say the truth, I thought the affair was over and done with. I will go and find him."

They came back arm in arm. A man with dark lustrous eyes and the kingly port of the Silvers, but with a face all his own and his dead mother's. Such was Aurelius the younger. Violet stood by her father, her eyes glistening. Mr. Silver, showing more emotion than any one would have believed, clasped his son's outstretched hands.

"Welcome home, my boy," he whispered. And, retaining still the hands, he turned to his brother.

"Arnold," he said, "where is your welcome?"

"Here," replied Arnold Silver taking Violet's rosy hand and placing it in his nephew's; "one more expressive than words."

"A good gift!" said Aurelius Silver, musingly. "It is but exchanging one brother for the other. She was to have been yours, Charles."

"She and I never thought that, father."

"Your brother is leaving us—for California, or elsewhere," said Mr. Silver to his new-found son. "Possibly you may have heard of it—and its cause?"

"Yes," was the answer, given in a tone of sad sympathy. Perhaps Charlie will stay here, though, now I am come."

There was a moment's pause. Mr. Silver broke it.

"Violet, as Charlie's promised bride, I bought you a set of jewels. As the betrothed of my son Aurelius, I should like to clasp them on your neck and arms."

"Oh, uncle, thank you—thank you!" was Violet's impulsive answer. "How good you are! How good every one is!"

Mr. Silver left the room, to fetch, as was supposed, the promised jewels. But he seemed rather long about it. Violet was talking to Charles when he returned, her eyes nitiful.

"This Christmas has held nothing for you," she said; "it is very sad."

"Except a darling sister and brother," said Charlie, clasping her hands in his.

"And wife!" said the voice of Aurelius Silver behind them.

They turned their faces to him, in a silence born of awe—a pallid silence, through which Violet's voice rang out in wild exultation.

"Daisy! Oh, Charlie, this was the ghost I saw to-day! She was looking out of that private room of my uncle's, and I thought it was a real ghost, and fainted away. I was ashamed to confess it afterward; I supposed I must have been in a dream."

Aurelius Silver stood towering like some lofty column crested with sparkling snow; and by his side a dark and beautiful little creature whose wide and speaking eyes were fixed on Charles' face.

"Take her," said Mr. Silver to his son Charles. "She is yours. When she fell into the lake—for that was the cause of her disappearance, her eyesight no doubt deceiving her—I was close at hand, and fortunately was enabled to save her—"

"Do you mean you got her out, Uncle Aurelius?" interrupted Violet, in her eagerness.

"Yes, I got her out."

"But why did you not bring her home?"

"She was quite insensible; and I thought she would recover better in the game-keeper's cottage, and so I conveyed her thither. She had an illness after that—a fever. For some weeks she was not herself, and the game-keeper's wife attended on her. I enjoined silence on them. Before she at all recovered we left the villa for this place."

"But, uncle, why did you not tell us? Why have let us suffer all that suspense and distress?"

"I had my reasons for it," calmly replied Mr. Silver. "For one thing I wished to see what Charles' professed love for her really was; whether it would last, or was but ephemeral, as a butterfly's Summer day. She is here now, and you may make the most of her."

"He has been as a dear father to me," whispered Daisy, with tears in her eyes. "As a dear, loving, generous father. Oh, you cannot think how good he is; and we used to think him so proud and stern!"

It had been all as Mr. Silver said. No sooner had he turned his back upon the lake that night, than the awful wickedness of his conduct flashed over him in blood-red colors. With a half-breathed prayer for forgiveness, he rushed back and rescued Daisy. She could not be said to have quite recovered yet; but he had caused her to be brought to them here, had smuggled her into the house that afternoon at dus

means of a cylinder, on the principle of a barrel-organ, or played by keys by a musician. Every tone and semi-tone are represented, and the most delicate harmony, the grandest chorales, and most intricate figures can be executed on these bells. But what a giant in conception and power must be the musician who presides over this colossal harmony; what a sense of unlimited command over the power of sound as he thunders out sonorous grand chords, stately solemn melodies, gentle cadences of ringing mirth, or soft floating phrases like a dream of silver bells; what a sense of supreme sway, as the grand music rolls over the country for miles and miles, filling the air with its wonderful grandeur and beauty, and causing the heart to swell with emotion at the unutterable splendor of the music which seems to float up to heaven and die among the stars!—*The Argosy.*

"THAT DEAR OLD TUNE!"

(A RONDEAU WRITTEN IN A RAGE.)

That dear old tune I loved of yore!
Indeed, I love it still;
But never, save by this one Bore,
(Who lives upon my basement floor,)
Have I eard it played so ill.

Alas! what penance for my sins!
I seek my desk, and soon
Once more the tooting Fiend begins
That dear old tune!

All vainly I expostulate:
He tries it morn and noon;
I vow, in sheer distress of hate,
To learn the "loud bassoon;"
"I rage, I burn"—I execrate
That dear old tune!

AUSTIN DOBSON.

—*The Saturday Journal.*

THEATRICAL SCENERY AND EFFECTS.—In a state paper dated 1563 there is an account of the expenses incurred for a certain masque produced in that year. Among other entries are a castle, an arbor *covered with painted canvas*, a rock, a hill for the Muses to sing upon, and chariots for Diana and Pallas. In another such list of expenses there are entries "for *painting* Strabo's house, Dobbins' do., Orestes' do.; a view of Rome, of Scotland, and the Palace of Prosperity." A third, dated 1571, mentions "a device for counterfeiting thunder and lightning." In 1574 a charge is made for pins for hanging "paynted cloths." Again in the same year for "canvasse to *payute* for howses for the players, monsters, great hollow trees, counterfeit fishes, a dragon's head deal boards for the senate-house," &c. A charge is also made for the "*carriage of frames* and paynted cloths for the players' howses." In 1575 a charge is made for "exhibiting the sun breaking behind a cloud." Here we have an effect that would delight a modern gallery. Under date of 1576 is another entry for a "paynted cloth and two frames." Two years later we read of a burning mountain, and under 1580 that "William Lyzarde was paid for painting seven cities, one country house, one battlement, one mount, two great cloths and battlements of canvas."

A description of the representation of Ben Jonson's masque of "Hymen" may be found in a letter preserved in the British Museum written by one John Pory to Robert Cotton, where we learn that "before the sacrifice could be performed, Ben Jonson burned the globe of earth standing behind the altar." Gifford says that England has never seen any entertainments of the kind to equal these masques. For further information let the reader turn to the pages of Ben Jonson, in which he will find stage directions as elaborate as though they had been written by Dion Boucicault. These masques, like our modern extravaganzas, were composed as vehicles for gorgeous stage effects, but, unlike our extravaganzas, the effects were married to some of the most delicious poetry that ever fell upon mortal ears.

In Bacon's essays on *Masks and Triumphs* occurs the first mention of the word "scenes," as understood in the modern sense: "It is true, the alterations of scenes, so it be quietly and without noise, are things of great beauty and pleasure; for they feed and relieve the eye before it be full of the same object, and let the scene abound with light especially colored and varied." In a masque produced at Whitehall in 1636, under the superintendence of Inigo Jones, the changes of scene are called "appearances," and are eight in number—one to each act, and three repeated in the last. In one the sun is eclipsed, and the fire on an altar dashed out by a shower of rain.

Although we have no such irrefragable proofs of the use of scenery in the public theatres, there is still a large amount of evidence, both positive and deductive, in favor of such a conclusion. Gosson, in his *Plays Confuted in Five Actions*, written some years before Shakespeare was known to fame, speaks of the beauty of the houses and the stages, the garish apparel, and tells us that "nothing was forgotten that could set the matter out with pomp or ravish the beholder with variety of pleasure." Shakespeare's plays abound in situations which no imagination, unaided by mechanical effects, could realize. And it must be borne in mind that he was essentially a practical man, who wrote for the stage *as it then existed*, with little or no thought of posterity. Why, then, did he cumber his plays with a multitude of directions impossible to be carried out? For instance, in the folio edition, 1623, of "King John," printed from an acting copy, we have this direction. "Enter *Arthur* on on the walls;" in "Henry VI." "Enter *Pucelle* on the top of a tower." If there was no tower or wall, why say anything about it *in the prompter's copy?* In the margin of an old copy of Jonson's "The Devil is an Ass," the actors are instructed that "this scene is acted at two windows, as out of a contiguous building."

Trap-doors were used as early as 1578. In Lodge and Greene's "Looking-Glass for London" (1591) a scene is thus directed: "The magi with their rods beat the ground, and from under the same riseth a brave arbor." Again: "A flame of fire appeareth from beneath, and Radogan is swallowed." Certain stage effects must have been introduced into the caldron scene of "Macbeth," or the language would have been meaningless.

The stage directions in old plays frequently refer to what is technically called "rises and sinks;" that is, mechanical contrivances for the ascension of the gods or the descension through the stage of the wicked personages to the regions below. Sometimes the words "in convenient" are added; this would indicate that some theatres were better furnished than others with such appliances. In a play entitled "Forest Elves" occurs this clause: "If, by reason of a concourse of people on the stage, there be not room for these accessories, they may be omitted." And in the enumeration of properties required it is frequently added that they may be omitted, and their places supplied by their names in text letters—a sufficient proof that they were more frequently used than not.

We now come to the consideration of the well-worn fact, that it was customary, previous to the Restoration, to placard the back of the stage with the name of the locality in which the action of the drama was supposed to take place. In the "Siege of Rhodes," the first play in which scenery is universally admitted to have been used, the word "Rhodes" was still written upon the scene; a circumstance which proves that the custom did not necessarily imply the absence of the painter's art. We must, therefore, endeavor to discover some other probable reason for this labeling.

Play-bills were known as early as 1563, but the information they contained was very meagre, being probably confined to the title of the play, the hour of commencing, and the prices of admission; and these were undoubtedly supplied to only the aristocratic portion of the audience. Consequently, as all plays were dressed alike, that is to say, in the prevailing costume of the age, and as the mass of the people had but little knowledge of history or geography, the only means of informing them of the *locale* of the drama was by some such rude device as that specified. But in addition to the name of the locality, the title of the play was also frequently hung at the back of the stage, and sometimes the actor who spoke the prologue carried a board or card on which it was inscribed.—*Belgravia.*

ARTICLES OF FOOD IN CHINESE TIBET.—Ferocity is much admired in Chinese Tibet; and in order to create it, the people are fond of eating what they ironically call "still meat," or meat with maggots in it. We heard also that, to the same end, they give a very curious pap to their infants. Meat, cut into thin slices, is dried in the sun and ground into powder; it is then mixed with fresh blood and put into a cotton cloth, and so given to the *enfant terrible* to suck. Mixtures such as this, combined with half-raw flesh, sun-dried flesh, and, where there is cultivation, with griddle-cakes of wheat, buckwheat, and barley, must make a pretty strong diet even for the seniors, and one well fitted to produce endurance and courage. It is to be hoped the milk (of mares and other animals) which the nomad Tartars so largely imbibe, may have some effect in mollifying the ferocity of their spirits. It is very extraordinary that the Chinese, who are a Tartar people, and must have descended at one time from the "Land of Grass," should so entirely eschew the use of milk in every shape. For long there was a difficulty in getting even a sufficiency of that liquid for the use of foreigners at the open ports in China; and I have heard of a ship Captain at Whampoa, on blowing up his *comprador* for not having brought him any milk, receiving the indignant answer, "That pig hab killo, that dog hab weillo, (run away,) that woman hab catchee cheillo—how then can catchee milk?" A Lama at Kaelang, on being spoken to on this subject, admitted that he had observed that even at Lassa the pure Chinese did not take any milk; and he said the reason they gave for not doing so was, that milk makes people stupid. I fancy there is some truth in that assertion; but possibly the Chinese may have got the idea from the fact that the Tartars, who are necessarily milk-drinkers and eaters of dried milk and butter-milk, are a very stupid people. Sir Alexander Burnes mentions a similar opinion as existing in Sind in regard to the effects of fish. There a fish diet is believed to destroy the mind; and in palliation of ignorance or stupidity in any one, it is often pleaded that "he is but a fish-eater."—*Blackwood's Magazine.*

ON THE VATNA JOKULL.—We were now 4,500 feet above the sea level. I named this mountain Mount Paul, after my valuable companion, Paulson, who had been so energetic in procuring me men, and without whose aid I should have been sadly at a loss. We enjoyed a good draught of the water which filled the upside crater, and, replenishing the whisky keg, set off up a steeper ascent due north, in order to allow for our deviation to the east. The great difficulty in acquiring anything like a knowledge of the geology of Vatna Jökull, is the depths at which the rocks are buried beneath the snow; and it is only in cases like that just mentioned, or where there may be considerable heat, that it would be possible to gather geological information. At the distance of about seven miles north-north-west was apparently a similar crater, but it was more deeply imbedded in the snow. Upon the western horizon were twenty or thirty small black objects; but even through my glass I failed to detect whether they were clouds or black promi nences. We journeyed on till we reached the height of 5,850 feet. The sun was very hot, and traveling became exceedingly difficult. The thermometer in the sun rose to 70°, and, as we had traveled about ten miles, with a détour of two, to examine Mount Paul, I called a halt, and proceeded to make a contrivance for melting snow. I scooped a hole in the snow, and lined it with a macintosh coat. I then raised slanting banks of snow round the hole, which I covered in a similar manner, and strewed the whole with snow, leaving a good shovelful in the bottom of the hole. My companions had meanwhile raised a slant to protect us from the sun. I now ordered all wet socks and shoes to be changed and hung out to dry; if we had not taken this precaution we should have had no dry change in camp. The men now slept, and I proceeded to post up my diary, and take observations.

To the east, about five miles off, lay a conical mountain, perhaps a continuation of Vatna Jökull husic. I could see the black summits of Bleugre and the Bjorns, but we had long lost sight of Orefa. The Bjorns I knew to be south-south-west, and Bleugre south-west. Upon taking out my azimuth, great was my dismay at finding the first bearing north-west, and the latter due north, while my compass performed the most eccentric evolutions. I shut the instrument up in disgust, contemplating the chance of a fog, and cutting out a circle of paper, upon which I marked the known bearings of Bleugre and the Bjorns, I proceeded to take some observations, as far as it was practicable to do so, and drew as accurate a map of my route as I could under the circumstances. I determined to say nothing about my compass being at fault, lest my men might refuse to proceed; so taking refreshment at my reservoir, which was fast filling, I observed the bearings of the start, changed my socks, and turned in. Having slept for four or five hours, we made a good meal, drinking plentifully of the pool of water which by this time had collected in our reservoir. All our things were dry, and we were in excellent spirits. As we ended our meal, a strong smell, as of the carbonic oxide from a blast furnace just tapped, pervaded the atmosphere. We all started to our feet, and sniffed the breeze that was blowing pretty strongly from the north-north-east, which perhaps brought down the exhalation from cooling lava fields in that direction. I was now doubly sure we were upon the right track. At this moment Paul pulled out the little compass I had lent him, to observe more closely the direction of the smell. He at once detected the eccentric movement of the instrument, and exclaimed, "The compass is foolish!" Biarny and John at once turned round to witness the phenomenon, and, as I expected, asked, "What in case of fog?" I explained (though, I must say, not very satisfactorily to myself) that it was only the part of the mountain we were then on that was attracting it, and asked if they were afraid. They laughed and said, "Oh, no; it is all one to us." I carefully noted the direction of the attraction, which was to the west; that which ought to have been west reading north, though the compass would not hold steadily to any one point. The men called the mountain opposite to us Mount Magnet. It was now freezing, and, after advancing a short distance, all ascent terminated in a rolling plain of snow. In vain we searched the horizon for traces of smoke. The clouds deceived us; and even when, after looking through my telescope, I felt certain that I saw smoke, the quick glance of my companions would determine the doubt with the expression, "Alla skyo! ekki reykir," (all sky, no smoke). We pursued our way for about three hours more, and passed a beautiful snowy peak to the east, a volcanic cone covered with snow. The different stages by which it rose from base to summit told of the series of eruptions which had raised the peak to its present elevation above the surrounding snow, probably 500 feet. Twice did the smell I have described come upon us, each time from the same direction. As the sun was setting we had a magnificent view of two white mountains, evidently volcanoes, away to the east of these. One was a two-coned mountain, while the other, a smaller one, appeared through the telescope to have a large cave in its side, from which was issuing steam or smoke. I should place them twelve or fifteen miles to the east of our track; but, having lost sight of Orefa and Bjorns, I had nothing by which I could take their angular distance. When the sun set, the surface of the snow became very hard, under the influence of a severe frost. Toward the middle of the night the sky clouded over, and as we were much fatigued we again camped as before in the snow, 5,950 feet above sea level, determining to rise with the light and make a long stage before the sun was up. We had been for some hours at about the same level, varying perhaps 100 feet. At supper we reviewed the provisions, and found we had but three days' full rations left, for the severe work in the keen air had greatly increased our appetites. Upon examining my thermometers I found that the columns of both maximum and minimum were broken, and no amount of shaking would adjust them. This unfortunately prevented my obtaining any more thermometrical readings upon Vatna Jökull. We slept about four hours, and as it was not yet light in the tent, I tried to peep out, but found an accumulation of snow upon the macintosh which formed the gable end of our house-top. When I succeeded in removing it sufficiently to look out, I found that a thick mist and fine driving snow prevented me from seeing many yards, and to my dismay the wind was S. E., the worst wind in Iceland. I slipped out, without disturbing my companions, and took a good look round. The shovel was nearly covered, only a small part of the handle showing, so I stuck it up in our tracks, the blade bearing north and south. After this I returned to the bag and slept, trusting the wind might change; but I knew it was hoping against hope, for when the wind once gets into south-east in this country there is no knowing how long it will remain there. One thing is certain, it will be the worst weather possible until it changes. When we all roused up from our sleep the snow was thickly falling, and as Biarny looked out he remarked, in scarcely a cheerful tone, "*Alla thoga miki driva*" (all fog, much fine snow.) We held a council of war over our breakfast. The men were unanimous in their decision to turn back; nor could I (much as I should have liked to do so) have tried, with anything like an easy conscience, to persuade them to remain where we were, or to go on. We had scarcely a day's provisions left; the wind was south-south-east, where it might stay for a fortnight, as I had often known to be the case; the fine snow which was falling showed that there was a great deal more to come. For a heavy fall always begins with fine, driving snow, and a passing storm with large flakes; and I did not like the prismatic ring round the sun two nights previous. We were two good days' travel from the commencement of the glacier, our compass was useless, and, with the present weather, we might be a great deal longer trying to find our way down. I therefore determined to return.—*Fraser's Magazine.*

KAROL, THE FRIEND OF MURGER.—Karol was the friend of Mürger, and is regarded by Les Buveurs d'Eau as "la plus étrange et la plus sympathique figure de Bohème dont on ait jamais ouï parler." Karol appears in Mürger's novel as the eccentric painter Lazare. It is not clear, however, that Karol had followed very closely or arduously any of even the Bohemian professions. Certain vague aspirations in regard to literature and art, seem occasionally to have stirred within him, although with little practical result. Now and then he produced very execrable verses, or sketches in water colors of very indifferent quality. But he more often declared the main object of his life to be the liberation of Poland, a subject that occupied and exercised the last generation a good deal, although little is heard of it now. For Karol believed himself a Pole, and invariably so described himself. All the friends of Mürger were poor, but Karol was so poor that it is difficult to understand how he could have subsisted at all. Yet he seems to have had it in his power now and then to render real services to his comrades and acquaintances, in the way of providing them with shelter and food. Les Buveurs d'Eau speak of him in terms of extraordinary affection. The biographers of Mürger have recorded many passages in the life of Karol. It was felt that, if only because of his eccentricity, he was a real credit to Bohemia. For eccentricity, if it be of a humorous tendency, and may therefore be justly credited with elements of pathos and tenderness, is very highly esteemed in Bohemia. The physical aspect of Karol was at least remarkable. He was thick-set, beardless, his face of a Tartar type, his complexion dark olive, his hair red-brown, his eyes large, his nose flat. He entertained, however, a harmless measure of vanity in regard to his personal appearance. He was sedate and self-possessed in manner, somewhat impassible even. He could not be moved to laughter, although Bohemia might be indulging its most extravagant disposition toward the jocular and the ludicrous. He was of prodigious muscularity. In this respect he might have sat for the portrait of the Porthos of Alexandre Dumas. He could burst a strong lock with a blow of his fist; he was reported to have stopped, by sheer strength of wrist, the runaway horses of a diligence; yet, as Les Buveurs d'Eau write of him, he was Bayard, Don Quixote, and St. Francis de Sales all in one. Oftentimes he preferred to overlook provocations and insults he might with little effort on his part have severely punished, rather than use his gigant's strength like a giant, tyrrannously. He was extremely charitable, he was very brave, he was chivalrous even to craziness. So his friends have described him. Of his origin it was only known that he was the son of a soldier of the Empire who had married a Polish wife. Wounded or exhausted he had dropped out of the line of march, tarrying near Wilna, on the road back from Moscow to France. He had there received hospitalities, and repaid them by bestowing his hand and name upon his hostess. Subsequently he had returned to Paris, and, dying there, had left his widow and two children—Karol, and another concerning whom there is nothing to relate—to subsist as best they could. She opened a very humble restaurant in the Rue Mignon, with a table d'hôte at thirteen sous, especially designed for the accommodation of Polish refugees. Gathered round her board were to be seen many victims of national disaster—the bowed figures, worn faces, the bald, wrinkled brows and enormous moustaches of the soldiers, gentlemen, and nobles of Poland, exiled from their native land and sorely impoverished by their patriotism. Karol rarely appeared in the Rue Mignon, however. He refrained as much as he could from taxing his mother's slender means, or diminishing the poor resources of her dinner-table. Sometimes there was no help for it. He was penniless. He could earn nothing, even by coloring prints and toys for children, or by executing the rough lithographs and drawings on wood which adorn songs and fly-sheets sold in the streets. But even then he dined as frugally as possible at that very frugal board. And he was careful to carry away with him, for the support and comfort of his comrades in misfortune, Mürger and the rest, the scraps and crumbs of bread which the poor emigrants had left upon the table after their very meagre dessert. Be sure they were very small fragments; still Bohemia was glad to get them, Bohemia being, as indeed often happened, in very dire straits at that time. Karol was understood for a time to have been without any fixed abode. His home at night was in the avenue of St. Cloud—the fifth branch of the third tree on the left of the road from the Bois de Boulogne. It was his boast that his branch afforded good sleeping accommodations for ten, at least; But he was afterward the tenant of a garret in the Rue St. Jacques, from the door of which he was careful to remove the lock, so that his friends—indeed, all comers—might obtain admission at any time they listed, under any circumstances. To Karol, Les Buveurs d'Eau ascribe the ingenuity of a Red Indian and the inventiveness of Robinson Crusoe. But with these qualities was combined a degree of unconscious absurdity, which usually rendered them abortive. He had extraordinary expedients for earning money, and, with this view, often engaged in much earnest toil, carried on, however, after rather an impulsive and spasmodic fashion. He would, no doubt, have profited very much more if the same measure of labor had been bestowed upon less eccentric objects. The day came at last when even Karol's passion for the eccentric and the extravagant seemed to know satiety. He began to perceive that a man who has no money in the funds, and is otherwise unprovided for, must work steadily for his bread if he would have his loaves supplied to him at all regularly. His friends, Les Buveurs d'Eau, record that, with great courage and energy, he entered upon a life of sober, steady industry. Still his occupations were often of a strange and incongruous kind. Throughout one Winter he rose at 4 o'clock in the morning, and carried a few sous by wearing sabots and polishing the waxed floor of a manufactory on the Boulevard Mont Parnasse. He spared no exertion to satisfy his employer. Afterward he turned his physical gifts to account. He lent his muscular figure on hire—posed as a model in the Atelier Suisse. Perhaps by this time he had ceased to believe himself a Polish refugee. Certainly his new employment must have jarred with his sense of respect—have almost destroyed the air of dignity which had once been so habitual to him. And his experiences in this life-school were trying. The art students had little mercy or consideration for this humble servant of their art. It is to be feared that Karol was to them something of a butt—shafts of ridicule fell thickly about him. He was often wounded sorely, but he made no complaint. He held his peace, earned his wages, resumed his clothes, and went his way. At last he was roused to reply, and during a pause in the lesson he wrote in chalk upon the floor of the model's throne an impromptu epigram which he had of course long before prepared for delivery. It was not a production of much point; it simply invited attention to the fact that a model was not, as many seemed to believe, merely a creature of flesh, but was possessed of feelings as well. Unfortunately there was an orthographical error in Karol's lines. Upon this the students fastened, to the neglect of the intention of the epigram. He incurred increase of ridicule, and appears at last, on this account probably, to have relinquished his career as a model. For months he had disappeared—none knew what had become of him. Then came sad news. Karol—le meilleur de nous tous, as his friends fondly write of him—had died at Constantinople! He had tried to establish himself there as a teacher of French; but its seemed that he had not found any pupils.—*All the Year Round.*

A DISAPPOINTED DOMINIE.

The Wilmington (Del.) *Commercial* of yesterday has this story: "A certain divine down the Peninsula is noted for his success in managing the business affairs of his charge by having his various collections, &c., all made and appropriately labeled before Conference. Naturally, in order also, in his estimation, is the annual donation, and in this he is right, for does not St. Paul say the 'laborer is worthy of his hire?' Well, the time having come and nearly passed, (being just on the eve of the holidays and his larder not filled,) said divine became uneasy and naturally thought it was from forgetfulness, for it had never been omitted before, and he could not think himself to blame, for had he not been punctual to every duty? A happy thought seized him; all that was needed as a suggestion was the appointment of a social meeting at his house, and they would at once take the cue and come with their turkeys, sausage, flour, buckwheat, &c., to make and participate in the feast. Invitations were sent out, and on the day appointed the people came flocking in from the surrounding country, but not a turkey or chicken graced the procession, and the delicious loaves of bread and cake, savory sausage, and golden prints of butter were resting in quiet seclusion at the parishioners' homes. Here was a fix. A houseful of company invited, no provision made by the host, and the guests too dull to comprehend what was included in the invitation. There was but one recourse. The people must be fed, and the reverend gentleman had to send out and borrow the provisions which he thought would be furnished to feed his large company, with some weeks' supplies over. The people enjoyed the occasion very much."

LEAVES OF TRAVEL.

RIVER TYPES AND SCENES—A MISSISSIPPI PANORAMA.

NIGHT ON THE RIVER—LANDING AT A WHARF-BOAT—A TOWN IN DECAY—AN ARKANSAS TRAVELER—WATCHING THE STEAMER—AN INTERESTING DISCUSSION ON THE "FREE NIGGER" QUESTION.

If evening ever comes more quietly, imperceptibly, and with more of delicious repose than on the Mississippi River, at Natchez, in March, one might well be curious to know it. The great stream is suddenly swallowed up out of your sight by mystical shades which you had not seen approaching. A few moments before, the low banks; the bars, with their ominous freight of drift-wood, with vultures perched thereon; the barges, passing in solemn order like a funeral procession of overgrown gondolas; the tangled thickets, and the broad expanses of forest—all were distinctly visible. But now you grope your way. The huge steamer trembles as the pilot whirls her around and heads her toward the high bank on which Natchez stands. Bells ring, negroes shout, the furnaces glow, dark figures pacing upon the decks give sharp commands; but you float in an unnameable, unknowable region; the darkness seems to have blotted you out, and you instinctively tap the planks of the deck to satisfy yourself that you are still on a packet boat.

At last there is a breath of perfume from the rose-strewn shores; here and there a light gleams faintly, as if discouraged at the intensity of the blackness; there is much cursing, and, to your wondering mind, an almost insane repetition of apparently useless commands. As the mate drives the roustabouts forward, he cries out the orders angrily twice or three times, and then bursts into prolonged oaths, which seem like broadsides from a man-of-war. Doubtless you have seen the mate follow up his oaths and emphatic verbal abuse with many a sound blow, delivered squarely between the staring eyes of some negro blessed with less than ordinary intelligence. If the men are not all at their posts when the steamer arrives at the wharf-boat, you may see one or two scientific "knock-downs." Does Sambo retaliate? Not he. On the contrary, he bides his time, and brings the ill-tempered mate into a court of law to answer for his brutalities. Against the mate of only one or two steamers there are sometimes thirty or forty suits of this nature pending.

Now a torch-light, ruddy, strong, and cheering penetrates the Stygian blackness. It discloses half a dozen brawny forms, gesticulating wildly and singing some dialect catch. Now they throw out a slender rope, then heave overboard a heavy cable. Another light, on the opposite side of the gangway, blazes up, and shows that our great craft is coming to the wharf-boat, and is in dangerous proximity to a small stern-wheel steamer. The frail bark, with its decks apparently as fragile as egg-shells, seems about to be crushed. But the pilot's lynx-like eyes have discerned the difficulty; his ingenuity is set busily at work, and, by the aid of the wild-looking men who all at once tumble up from the interior recesses of the smaller boat, and pole and thump at our vessel as though she were a cuttle-fish trying to swamp them, all trouble is avoided. We come safe to land, and climb the bluff, aided by faith rather than by the skill with which the negro driver guides his horses.

We have been on a tour of observation up river, and have found the Mississippi as capricious as a Northern trout-stream. We have sailed with the planters whose hearts were sore because of their drowned and mud-buried cotton-fields; gossipped with pilots who always speak of the river with bated breath, and sometimes in a whisper, as if they superstitiously dreaded that it might overhear them; consorted with long Mississippians, lean and active Arkansians, bluff Tennesseeans, and those incomprehensible cosmopolites, the Hebrew travelers, who have consignments of produce for every little woe-begone and water-strangled place on the whole course. We have cast a melancholy gaze upon the decaying town of Napoleon, once one of the most flourishing ports on the Arkansas side, but now a forlorn little huddle of dreary cabins, slipping away into the ooze. On the crown of its levée we saw men with mule carts, busily fighting the worrying currents which high water always brings; and now and then men and mules went down together in the water, to come up—the men swearing and the mules kicking and plunging. Napoleon looked like a bully who had been very much beaten, and had retired to some refuse heap to die. It was once the roughest place on the Mississippi. Life was cheap there; men died every day with their boots on—strangers especially. The pilots on the steamers have many stories of the frays between Napoleon's townspeople and the crews of steam-boats. Time was when an interchange of revolver-shots between the people on the wharves and those on a boat's deck was considered quite the thing as the mail packets were arriving or departing. It was in the days when men wore bowie knives and revolvers in order to use them every day—not from mere force of habit, as now—when a joust at arms added greatly to the excellence of a gentleman's reputation, and when any Northern person who spoke civilly to a negro was at once marked for discipline. Napoleon was rough then, and ready, too. Now it is disconsolate and anything but aggressive. It is closing its eyes and sinking gradually under the insidious embrace of the engulfing water.

There was an old gentleman, dressed in homespun, and with a frank, childish face, which led one at once to like him, who was among those we encountered on the up-river journey. His inseparable companion was a white glass bottle, which this fresh-faced old gentleman filled with whisky whenever opportunity offered. As soon as he had drank the bottle empty he was in his humors—cruel, vindictive—and his favorite boast was that "in Arkansas we kill men without giving 'em time to pray." The dreadful and remorseless fashion in which he would say this when under the inspiring influence of the bottle's late contents was harrowing. When no whisky was to be had the fresh-faced old man was mild in manner, shy, and courteous; was, withal, full of wisdom. But in his cups he was murderously inclined, and we could not help thinking that, perhaps, were it not for white glass bottles and their contents, there might never be any killing in Arkansas. Who knows?

It was curious to note the passive manner with which inhabitants all along shore stood and meditatively regarded the boat, its crew, its passengers, and its engines. Placing their hands firmly in their pockets, and securing a comfortable lean against a cotton-bale, a sugar-hogshead, or a tree, they luxuriously gazed, and indolently said nothing. There was no surprise in their manner. It is not likely that a first-class earthquake would have had any effect in unrooting them. They seemed absolutely to grow to the soil. They never sprang about in lithe, vigorous fashion, aiding and dispatching the tedious detail of loading and unloading their own goods; but they looked idly upon the negro toilers, and smiled at their efforts when the grinning blacks overworked themselves. It was probably so thorough a luxury to them to watch the arrival and departure of the steamers that nothing could have tempted them to give up a single iota of that brief joy. Sometimes, long after we had steamed away and were slowly working around some great bend, we could, looking back, see them still rooted to their favorite spots, intently watching our progress. The solemn calm and and massive inertia of the lowlands seemed to have entered into their composition. One might have riddled them with bullet-holes before they would have departed ere the boat disappeared on the horizon. At night, had they not been asleep, they would doubtless have stood with the same impressive persistence in the glare of the steamer's "pine-fat" torches.

When at night we carefully ran in to shore, and our swinging gang-planks were momentarily fastened to some shelving bank, it was amusing to see a negro, with the mail-bag in his hand, go up the steep plank from the torch-light into the darkness, and, while swinging over the black current, to see another negro approaching him, his tiny lantern looking like a glow-worm pursued by some uncouth monster. The mails would be exchanged; the negro on shore would invariably ask for a chew of tobacco, which he would rarely get, and then our boat would whirl around into the middle of the stream and get under way once more.

Now and then we had a night experience which was wonderfully novel. Once we came to an island on which hundreds of cords of wood were piled, and a sharp bargaining ensued between the Captain on our deck and the mysterious wood-owners on the dark mass. A watch-fire showed us where the figures stood, and lent a dubious aid to our uncertain progress toward the islet's shore. At last a satisfactory turn in the chaffering was reached; we came to the shore where the watch-fire burned, and while the negroes were busily loading cord upon cord of fuel, into which the beautiful trees which once bordered the stream had been transformed, we wandered to the land and looked across the river.

Never before had the great "Father of Waters" seemed so terribly grand, so weirdly fascinating, so resistless. The "watch-fire" threw a strange reflection on the immense current, and the added glare of the torches, which busy negroes kept constantly trimmed, made the superb volume of sad-colored wavelets seem majestic beyond description. The islet's shore was so nearly level with the Mississippi that a sense of absolute insecurity overcame us. We seemed alone and helpless in the midst of a water wilderness, out of which we might despair of ever finding our way. In these remote and apparently limitless forests of Arkansas there were hundreds of great swamps, such as that along whose sides the river ran. The broad expanse of the dark water, dotted with cypress knees, seemed to be a labyrinth in which we were doomed to remain. We were not sorry to put our feet upon the dock of the steamer once more, and it needed all the influence of the negroes' careless singing to bring us back to gayety after view of such a sombre panorama.

Sitting on deck in the darkness, after the long procession of darkeys carrying wood to the lower deck had ceased, and the boat was moving swiftly down stream, it was difficult to avoid overhearing the following conversation between two passengers, evidently uneducated whites. They were quite near—we could tell that by the perfume of the whisky which they were about to imbibe and which impregnated the air with pungent odor as soon as the corn-cob stopper was removed from the flask.

"Mighty quare river, Sir."

"Yes, Sir. Dog gone er, Sir; she's the dog-gonedest queerest river I most ever see. Never can rely on her, no how. Them bends below is changed in character entirely since last year, I reckon."

"Yes, Sir. How's free niggers in your State, Sir? They's a mighty peart lot in this yere boat, now. Reckon they don't git much of the old discipline, Sir. Me—no, I hain't no use for a free nigger—don't want none in mine. I hed some likely boys; reckon some on 'em wuz the smartest niggers on this yer river. I seed one on 'em down at that yer landin', whar Ben Kate's got them log piles, one day, I reckon, last year. Jim, 's name wuz. big, stout nigger, with a black, smilin' face. I sed Jim ther, 'n I sung out from the boat, sez I, 'Hyar, you —— nigger, come yer to yer master,' and he looked ready to split with mad. When he come on board he wuz a bilin'. Me 'n him hed a difficulty on the trip down, and I broke a plank on Jim's head. Don't want no free nigger to give me back talk, I don't."

"No, Sir. 'Tain't no use encouragin' the critters. They look like they wuz about spoiled, now, I reckon. But the nigger an' the mule is indispens'ble, now, to Louisiany, an' the white man can't get on without 'em. Jest make yer mind up on to that, an' hang on to it. The nigger's the best friend the white man's got in the South. Yankees can't fool him. He'll come round when he gets some of them new-fangled notions like out o' his black head. Dog-gone me ef he ain't more'n half turned agin the Yankees now. Thar wuz a nigger in my parish (darn my skin ef he ain't smart, too!) that says he'll dead sho're vote with us of the Yankees don't pan out better on givin' niggers offices in the State."

"Wal, the niggers has got various idyeas into their heads; some is 'bout as industrious as they wuz befo' the surrendah, 'n others is cusseder 'n you'd believe, now. Them niggers in Concordia, opposite Natchez, can't make no headway by themselves. They're mule-racin', and cuttin' an' siftin up an' down the country. They live permiscuous, like they did in old times. Not many marriages sence the war, nuther, I don't reckon. Gettin' so now they do a heap o' shootin'; right smart o' difficulties among niggers, now, Sir. Reckon them Alabama nigs is more peaceable like. They's sev'ral hundred in Concordia. Some works well, an they hain't no inclination to vote. When the parish niggers gets among 'em, and talks schoolhouse and such like, they gets votin' on the brain; but dog-gone me fur a goose ef they car much 'bout their perlitical privileges."

Here the speakers went on to the upper deck, to observe the lights of an approaching steamer, and the remainder of their colloquy was lost.

THE PLAGUE.

In a paper addressed to the French Academy of Sciences, Dr. Tholozan, one of the physicians attached to the Court of Persia, and writing from Teheran, Nov. 10, adverts to the reappearance of the plague in that country, after a long period of extinction. It had ceased completely in the East, when, in April, 1858, it broke out in an Arab camp in the regency of Tripoli, at eight miles from Benghazi, and thence extended to the neighborhood. Its appearance had been preceded by a long drought and famine. It had no connection with the Egyptian plague of 1845, and was consequently spontaneous. Eight years after its complete disappearance, a new focus, equally spontaneous, was reported in the Spring of 1867, on the banks of the Euphrates, not far from Hillay. The scourge again attacked nomadic Arabs, and remained confined within a narrow district that had experienced no famine or privation of any sort, and it ceased without leaving a trace behind. The third focus was observed by Abdul-Ali, sanitary physician at Tauris, in the beginning of 1871, at a small village of Persian Koordistan, south of Ormiah. These Koords, who wander about in Summer, live in narrow and dirty dwellings during the Winter. The disease, instead of invading the large towns, went up the river and attacked Bassorah on the Turkish frontier. There had been no famine, no inundations; there had only been a little more dry weather during the two preceding Summers, and less snow in Winter than usual. This focus became again extinct without overstepping its narrow limits, or leaving any trace behind. This was, therefore, a new instance of spontaneous eruption. This year again Mesopotamia has been the seat of a new focus, which again manifested itself among wandering Arabs. The Euphrates was swollen up, and there has been much rain. No privations, but typhus fever in 1872. By contagion the plague was carried northward to Diyarbekr, and died away at Hillay and Nedjef as soon as hot weather set in. In all these instances, and in the new outbreak, last Spring at Benghazi, where it is still active, the fact of spontaneous appearance is placed beyond a doubt; the disease is brought on epidemically, after certain atmospheric perturbations that cause excessive drought or frequent rains, and is then propagated by contagion.

OUR DINING-ROOMS.

A DINNER IN A FRONT BASEMENT.

THE APARTMENT DESCRIBED—FROM THE CARPET TO THE PICTURES—A REFORM DEMANDED—WHAT A DINING-ROOM OUGHT TO BE.

The Christmas festivities are over. We have danced until we are lame, and we have eaten until we are sick. It is well. And having now surmounted the epigastric perils which environ our great religious holiday, let us in these lucid intervals, when we are free from the dyspeptic depression caused by overmuch turkey and oysters, to say nothing of Clicquot or Krug, consider certain circumstances which may have some bearing upon the case. The late lamented Carl Benson did some notable work in exposing the sham pretenses and the real horrors of American cookery, for he was a man who lived both wisely and well. Still it seems to me that above and beyond the cooking itself, far more important than the viands, still more dangerous than the wine, are the localities in which the free and independent citizens of America consume their provisions. The last words are written advisedly, and though they may suggest reminiscences of African minstrelsy, and have a flavor of slang, yet, considering the detestable nature of the holes falsely called dining-rooms, I cannot allow that the majority of the Americans know what the word dining means. It has been given to me to be fond of dinners, not unreluctant to look upon the wine when it is of a golden pink color, to be scientific in salads and gifted with regard to vegetables. A kindly fortune has also enabled me to gratify these tastes at the dinner-tables of numerous friends. But, looking backward upon the past, casting a mournful glance over the eatings of the past fortnight, I cannot conscientiously remember more than one dinner which was eaten in a dining-room. All the other so-called feasts were devoured in a basement chamber.

Let the readers of THE NEW-YORK TIMES consider the nature of the front basement, and what manner of room it is. Those who devour their meals in such have had their perceptive faculties blunted by habit, and have probably ignored the horrors of the situation. It will be a merciful act to awaken them from this state of lethargy, and to show them, in the words of an accomplished, but, alas, unsuccessful lecturess, "whither they are drifting." It will at the same time be of benefit to those to whom Providence has given a real dining-room, making them grateful for being so much better off than their neighbors, and at the same time showing how these advantages can be most fully developed. Consider, then, I repeat, O readers of THE TIMES, the basement room which looks upon the street. It is the locality where furtively and in guilty haste the American family assemble to worship with imperfect rites the goddess of dining. The room is warmed with a stove, but from motives of mistaken economy the fuel within is only lighted five minutes before the solemn summons to descend and d— no, eat. One-third of the time, in obedience to atmospheric laws, the stove-pipe refuses to allow the smoke to ascend, and compels it to issue forth by numerous crevices into the chamber. On other occasions, when there is no opposition to the smoke and it ascends peacefully, the draft is bad and the fire will not burn. This is in a measure due to the fact that the stove is a very old one. It has done duty in numerous bed-rooms, and has been rejected and despised and shifted round for years, until a happy thought seized the mistress of the house. She removed it to the dining-room—oh, I beg pardon, to the front basement—where it has since remained in peace. It is needless to say that as a warmer of the body, as

DUELING.

THE RECORD OF 1874.

SOME SERIOUS QUARRELS FROM TRIFLING DISAGREEMENTS—A FATAL DISPUTE OVER A DRESS-MAKER'S BILL—NEGROES AND THE DUELLO CODE—"THE LIE AND A BOX ON THE EAR"—TWO WOMEN OF MEXICO WHO SETTLED AN AFFAIR OF THE HEART.

The young and old men of our day do not quarrel about the cut of the beard or the shape of the hose, or proceed to enforce respect for their opinions by rapier-thrusts, but, for all that, some of the most sensible of them occasionally forget that this is the nineteenth century, and fight as savagely, and often with more deadly effect, for what would seem slighter cause. A single line from a pen dipped in gall, or a word spoken in jest among friends, has been effective in producing combats of a deadly character in this and other countries during the year just passed. In Alabama we have the case of two men engaged in active business pursuits, Messrs. Tardy and Lay. They were both more than usually successful as insurance agents, and, at first, doubtless considered themselves privileged each to make fun at the expense of the other. At last there came a time when professional rivalry carried Mr. Tardy, so to speak, to his gall-bottle. Mr. Lay had launched a new insurance scheme, and had provided himself with a first-rate position as a reward for his labors. This made Mr. Tardy envious, and he wrote a few lines to a newspaper about Mr. Lay's company, introducing the name of the latter in a manner so bitingly sarcastic that he took mortal offense, and the upshot was an encounter with dueling pistols and the death of Mr. Tardy. The arrangements were conducted with as much respect for detail as if they had been under the supervision of that fire-eating Italian who wrote the *Treatise on Honor* in 1594. But when Mr. Lay returned to the city and tried to go about his ordinary business as if dueling was a every-day pastime, he broke down before the first bantering question, and, having burst into tears, cried out: "For God's sake don't say any more about it." Yet there is something heroic about a duel of this kind compared with a hand-to-hand combat like that which resulted in the death of Messrs. Cleveland and Mc. Gilkey, Officers of Watsonville, Cal. They had been sworn enemies for a long time. At last, as if a similar influence controlled the action of both, they armed themselves with pistols, and having searched until they found each other, stood two feet apart and fired. Dr. Cleveland fell upon his face and died instantly; Gilkey staggered against a tree and died in an upright position.

To pass at once from the terrible to the ridiculous can scarcely be accomplished with more facility than by briefly narrating the circumstances attending a duel which occurred in Georgia last March, and in which the principals were full-blooded negroes, although one had the good old Scotch name of Blair, and the other the no less Irish one of Sullivan. In an angry moment, it seems, Mr. Blair was foolish enough to intimate that Mr. Sullivan "was no gentleman," wherent Mr. Sullivan, possibly by virtue of his Celtic name, waxed wroth, and demanded either an apology or satisfaction with shot-guns or pistols. Blair was stubborn, and instead of apologizing, named weapons, time, and place. The requirements of the code as to seconds were faithfully complied with. At 7 o'clock in the morning they began to fire at each other with Colt rive-shooters, and kept it up until it became necessary to reload. Sullivan now appeared to have a steadier aim, after firing four times more at the head of his antagonist, he succeeded in wounding him in the leg. Having thus satisfied his own keen sense of honor, he shook Blair by the hand and assured him of his forgiveness. The only duel in Kansas during the year occurred between a Sheriff and a maniac in the suburbs of the town of Washington. It was fought with shot-guns, the former being successful. The maniac was badly wounded, but not killed. In spite of the well-known proclivities of the Kentuckians, there was no passage of arms in that State within the year that was dignified by the name of duel. But there was a case in which a man who had previously either engaged in one or had accepted a challenge was severely punished. With all their Ku-Kluxing in the blue-grass region, they dislike the idea of taking life by rule, preferring the noble shot-gun fight, that begins and ends as freely as the opening and shutting of a water-gate. At an election held last August, Mr. Thomas C. Jones was elected Clerk of the Court of Appeals, to the great disappointment of the rival candidate, Mr. J. B. Cochran. The latter denied his right to the office, on the ground of his ineligibility, because of having fought a duel, against the laws of the State. The Board of Contest declared the point well taken, and poor Mr. Jones, who no doubt had long since repented him of his folly, not only lost his position, but was put under bonds in the sum of $20,000 to answer an indictment subsequently found against him by the Grand Jury.

Even the good shirt of New-Jersey, with all her appliances for preserving the peace and giving rogues their deserts, did not escape the scandal of a duel. Two youths, with more blood than good sense, quarreled about a young lady whom both had too freely admired at a ball, and, in spite of the cooling effect of April showers, they went upon the banks of the Hudson River to make the number of her suitors the less by one or two. While thus engaged, a crowd was attracted to the spot. One of the youths now became nervous, and refused to fight to the death unless they could be alone. A third youth, at this, endeavored to throw oil on the troubled waters. The youth who had not objected to the crowd would not brook such interference, and, finding a new target, turned his revolver upon the intruder, and discharged its contents at his head. The Police then interfered, and there was a general cooling down. Another youth of a similarly peaceful disposition had a like experience at Troy, in our own State. He was endeavoring to part two wicked boys, named McKeagney and Tobin, who—the former with a pistol and the latter with a knife—were doing their utmost to kill each other, when McKeagney, although but eleven years of age, felt so much insulted at the interruption that he fired his pistol at the intruder, and, after having wounded him severely in the right cheek, fled precipitately, leaving the other principal to take care of himself. Pennsylvania likewise had a case of dueling in which the principals were boys. It was the saddest case of the three. The combatants were brothers, named Young. Both had been shooting wild fowl during the fore part of the day of the duel. It is supposed that they quarreled, and having lost all control over their feelings, decided to fight a duel to the death. At 9 o'clock the same night they were found lying a hundred yards from each other, mortally wounded. They were taken home, and physicians called to their aid, but they never spoke again. The one duel in Tennessee was the result of a lark on the part of a Mr. A. J. Sellers. A servant man, named Patterson, who had for some time been in the employ of Sellers' family, evidently could not comprehend or appreciate the humor of Mr. A. J., who, having noticed so much, was anxious to get an opportunity to arrive at a better understanding with him. At last it was afforded. Patterson had purchased a new suit of clothes, and Mr. Sellers had no sooner heard of it than he took some of the garments and was doing his utmost to put them on when Patterson, very ungenerously, objected, and furthermore hinted that Mr. Sellers was not acting like a gentleman. This brought matters to a crisis. Sellers challenged Patterson to fight him with shot-guns and pistols, and on the following day they met in the streets of Cotton Grove. They fought one of the most desperate duels on record. Mr. Sellers finally fell from loss of blood, and Patterson, who had himself been badly wounded in the side, thinking he had killed him promptly took to his heels, and has not since been heard of.

Virginia had more than her usual share of brag and bluster in 1874, but there was not a single shot fired under the *duello code*. The result of the McCarthy-Mordecai fight in 1873 inspired the fire-eaters with a wholesome fear of the law. The trial and sentence of McCarthy in 1874 possibly had much to do with the kind of good behavior that was maintained, even although he was pardoned by the Governor after having undergone a short period of imprisonment. Apropos of this subject, the very curious fact was elicited during the progress of McCarthy's trial that, while the laws of Virginia denounce as murder the killing in a duel fought without the State by any resident of Virginia upon a previous agreement made within the same," they have nothing whatever to say to the killing in a duel within the State. This view of the question, however, did not very favorably impress the Mahones, the Johnsons, the Mosbys, and the Payhes. Gens. Mahone and Johnson, it will be remembered, had a quarrel at Richmond concerning the use of influence to secure the election of their favorite candidates to a vacant seat in the Senate. Johnson shouldered the responsibility for a hand-bill reflecting discredit on Mahone. The friends of the latter took up the quarrel in a very lively manner, and all wanted to fight, but the fear of ineligibility to office having risen before the eyes of the principals, a mutual understanding was arrived at, and the fire-eaters returned home considerably crest-fallen. The splurge between Col. Mosby and Capt. Payne had a termination that proved equally galling to the native pride of the Virginian. The quarrel between these gentlemen originated in Capt. Payne and one H. C. Bowen having received a certificate stating that Col. Mosby had declared himself a candidate for Congress. The matter proceeded so far that Capt. Payne and his seconds had arrived upon the ground, near Buckland, Prince William County. In the meantime Col. Mosby had been arrested at Washington, D. C., and had given bail to keep the peace. Subsequently the "difficulty" was arranged, it was said, to the satisfaction of both.

We should have been glad, indeed, if Louisiana's record had been equally bloodless. That State has certainly had more than her share of misfortune during the year. First, there was the terrible death of the stock broker, Mr. Bienvenu. Taking up his wife's quarrel with Mr. Phillips, who had been the lawyer in a case in which she was defendant—an action to recover the amount of a dress-maker's bill—Mr. Bienvenu was knocked down for his abuse. He subsequently challenged the latter to fight a duel with shot-guns, and was himself killed instantly at the first fire. The second case was that of two Creoles, named Guillotte and Pezeros. They fought at Metairie Ridge, with pistols. Pezeros was shot through the side, near the breast. A. J. Benjamin and Wallace Wood were third on the list. They quarreled over a trifling business matter; but instead of calling in the aid of a few trusty, peaceable friends to arrange matters amicably, they challenged each other to mortal combat. They went over to Mississippi to have it out, as they thought, without interruption, but in this they were mistaken, for Mr. Wood had no sooner wounded Mr. Bachemin in the fleshy part of the right thigh than the authorities interfered and held both in $500 bail to keep the peace. Then there was the small-sword duel in a room at New-Orleans, between Messrs. Grandjean and Laverseche, two hot-headed persons who had disagreed in a private discussion at a club. The former was wounded in the shoulder and the latter in the stomach before both were content to cry quits and have done. The most shocking duel of all was that which occurred in St. James Parish, and ended in the death of Dr. Gray and Deputy Sheriff Richard. They had quarreled because of certain acts in reference to the conduct of the Parish Republican Convention. Richard was so determined to have satisfaction that he sent a challenge to posting Dr. Gray as "a villainous liar, an infamous scoundrel, and a contemptible coward." Both remained unhurt after the first fire. They took aim again with a like result. The friends then tried to interpose, but Dr. Gray demanded a third fire, and declared that he would continue to demand a repetition "until one or both parties should fall." At the third fire both fell forward "as if they had been logs." Gray died instantly. Richard lingered long enough to say: "If I live, I will kill the man that says Dr. Gray was a coward."

The duels in foreign countries were as numerous as on the previous year. France, as usual, standing at the head of the number as to the matter of challenges. The most romantic duel in Belgium was that in which MM. Lehembre and Fontainas took part. They had had a very disagreeable misunderstanding about a lady, upon whom the latter, before the meeting, had made a settlement of $20,000. M. Lehembre lost his life. The Spaniard and Cuban, De Couto and De Luna, made quite a stir in this City over a desire on the part of each to be the champion of his native country; but although they seemed to try very industriously to get at one another, they failed. At last it was arranged to have it out in Belgium, but for some reason Mr. De Luna did not reach that country in time. He was fortunate, however, in having a warm friend in the person of Mr. Rosalez, the latter of whom met Mr. De Couto in Belgium, and had the satisfaction of discharging a bullet at him without being put to the trouble of dodging a similar favor from Mr. De Couto, whose conduct upon the occasion was so brave and magnanimous as to win all hearts. There was a delightful reconciliation, and a charming journey home. If the other Cubans who fought duels had imitated Mr. De Couto, poor young Castellanos would still be alive. He had been generous enough to resent an insult offered to his father by a writer in the *Voz de Cuba*, and was shot through the forehead at the first fire. A very ridiculous journey was made to Brussels from Copenhagen by the Baron Saltzberg, the Austrian Chargé d'Affaires, and the Viscomte de Richemond-Richardson, first attache to the French legation, for the purpose of having "gentlemen's" satisfaction for the words "a lie and a box on the ear," which had been exchanged at a dinner party. After reaching the ground they had a new quarrel about the weapons, and although the seconds did their utmost to make matters agreeable, the principals could not agree to terms, and ultimately, in a high state of disgust, took their way back again to Copenhagen, without having as much as drawn a sword. M. Paul De Cassagnac had his usual number of quarrels, and possibly sent and received his usual number of challenges; but, luckily for himself, he did no bloodletting. He challenged Gambetta, and was in turn challenged by M. Clemenceau. The Duc De Chartres was reported to have challenged him, but the report was not confirmed. M. Veuillot, of the *Univers*, was also challenged, but did not fight. His scurrilous attack on Marshal Serrano brought a challenge from Comte Parados De Las Novas, son of Gen. Zabala; but Veuillot, having completed the number of his fighting days, declined the honor, and threatened the Police upon the Comte's seconds if they did not speedily take themselves off. Haenjen's challenge to Gambetta was no more successful. The performance of the two Americans, Payne and Riggs, who went to the trouble of crossing the Belgian frontier to drop into the hands of the Police, was just about as ridiculous as that of the nobles from Copenhagen. Mr. Payne had been expelled from a Paris club, and took this way of revenging himself upon society. Prince Soutzo, who killed Prince Ghika, a youth of twenty-three, at Paris, in a fit of jealousy, in 1873, was sentenced to four years' imprisonment, and his seconds to three years each. Soutzo had returned to French soil in the hope that his new respect for the law would get him clear. Italy had two duels that some of the correspondents called important. One was between a well-known figure in Roman society, named Agassa Di Rombello, and a Lieutenant of cavalry named Achille Raspantini. The former having insulted the latter, a jury of officers was consulted. The decision made it necessary for both to fight until either should be wounded. Di Rombello was shot through the body at the first fire. The second combat was between the fire-eating editor of *La Capitale* and a Prince of the Odescalchi family. The encounter ended with such superficial wounds as serve to let out the ill-humors of the body. Many duels occurred in Mexico, but the only one of interest had for principals women. They fought for a worthless man, who, perhaps, trifled with both of them. One was killed outright, and the other wounded.

"Alas! the love of women! it is known
To be a lovely and a fearful thing."

A WOMAN'S APPLICATION REFUSED.

Miss Carrie S. Burnham, a young lady who has been a law student for three years in the office of Damon Y. Kilgore, of Philadelphia, last week presented her application before the Board of Lawyers for examination as candidate to become a lawyer, and her application was not received. There was no precedent for such action, and the members did not feel at liberty to make one, and the lady was informed that the matter would be laid before the court and an opinion obtained, upon which they will act. The Coatesville (Pa.) *Union* says that Miss Burnham is a lady of culture, a proficient Greek and Latin scholar, and speaks several languages fluently. She was preceptress in the High School at Madison, Wis., for a term of years. In 1861-62-63 she was preceptress at the Evansville Seminary, Wis., the largest Methodist school at that time in the West. Since then she has been a pupil and graduate of an institute in Boston, and a graduate from a medical school in New-York City.

THE CHAIN GANG.

The following is a list of the names, crimes, and sentences of the prisoners removed from the Tombs to Sing Sing during the past week by Deputy Sheriffs Daly and Coughlin: Jeremiah Fuller, manslaughter in the fourth degree, two years; Joseph Kiernan, manslaughter in the fourth degree, one year and six months; Joseph Jeidell, forgery, one year and six months; Benjamin H. Colling, assault with dangerous weapon, four years; John Conner, robbery, first degree, eight years; Thomas Doran, burglary, two years and six months; Charles Augustus Manning, burglary, first degree, eighteen years; George Williams, alias "Yaller," burglary, first degree, eighteen years; Henry Williams, burglary, first degree, eighteen years; Joseph Clancy, assault with dangerous weapon, three years; Michael Chambers, burglary, two years and six months; Bridget Tierney, arson, four years; J. Julius Guthrie, receiving stolen goods, one year; John Smith Murray, petit larceny, five years; Bernard Dolan, petit larceny from person, five years; Edward Drumgoole, grand larceny, two years and six months.

FOSSIL FOOT-PRINTS.

RECENT DISCOVERIES IN THE CONNECTICUT SANDSTONE.

A WORTHY FARMER'S EFFORTS TO SECURE COMPLETE SPECIMENS—AN INTERESTING COLLECTION.

From the Springfield Republican, Jan. 7.

The elder Dr. Hitchcock has essentially read for us the story of those old inhabitants of the Connecticut Valley who have left their foot-prints in the sandstone formation of rock extending through New-England. As fascinating and enthralling as any creation of Eastern romance is the story of the early discovery and study of these impressions in the stones of the region—of the simple wonder which they created, and the comment which they called forth from the yeomanry as being "poultry tracks," or the footsteps of "Noah's raven;" then the slow awakening of the scientific world to the value of these curious investigations of Dr. Hitchcock, to which he was led by queerly-marked flag-stones noted in the streets of Greenfield by Dr. Joseph Deane and Dexter Marsh; and, lastly, of the triumphant achievement of his theory by President Hitchcock, where he boldly created from these indented rock fragments the living things that walked upon them centuries ago. The scientific world warily questioned the substantiality of this re-creation, yet the Doctor went on patiently elaborating his theory until a collection of at least 20,000 tracks had been deposited in the cabinets of Amherst College in proof thereof, and Massachusetts was ready, in 1838, to publish a formal report upon the ichnology of the State, which is probably the most purely scientific matter, without a shadow of practical application, ever undertaken by the commonwealth. This work commanded world-wide recognition for its author, drew out high encomiums from such authorities as Profs. Owen, of London, and Hoidinger, of Vienna, and established the science of ichnology.

Since the death of Dr. Hitchcock no systematic efforts have been made to follow up his translations of this rock history, and the science has made little or no progress hitherto. The rock in which these impressions are found is a sandstone, generally of a fine character, and known to the geologist as the triassic formation. The strata dip easterly at an angle of about 20°, over an area of about 190 miles long and on an average of ten miles wide. The tracks found in this valley were most evidently made by animals of very different characteristics—the bird, reptile, tortoise, frog, insect, fish, and worm—though the opinion gains more and more ground that nearly all the animals which made their mark were of a reptilian or batrachian type. Perhaps the most notable fact connected with these impressions is that almost no bones or other remains than the mere footprints have been found; with the slight exception of about a dozen fragments of the least important of the parts of the skeleton of an animal found in this valley, about twenty years ago, no trace save footprints, has as yet been found of the triassic inhabitants of the valley.

But while the public has heard little of late years about the fossil footprints, Mr. T. M. Stoughton, of Gill—a very knowing farmer, with a pratical knowledge of how most successfully to dig and expose the tracks, and with a keen eye discerning everything new—has been making some explorations and discoveries in the rocks at Turner's Falls, for Prof. Marsh, of Yale College, which are of the greatest value. He has been digging now some years, and his collection of the imprints numbers several thousand, valued at thousands of dollars. Great numbers have already been shipped to New-Haven; but as yet the college museum there is not entirely ready to receive them, a considerable number are still left with Mr. Stoughton at his Gill home. Among the more recent of these rare specimens proving conclusively the existence of a genus of reptiles in that period hitherto unknown. Tracks of the five-toed otozoon have been repeatedly alluded to heretofore, but Mr. Stoughton has just taken out remarkably distinct, well-defined impressions, showing the former existence of a three-toed otozoon. The tracks are from eight to ten inches long, several in number, and in a straight line, showing plainly the course of the animal, and possibly indicating somewhat, by the length of the step, the size of the beast. The quarry whence this slab was taken has now been closed by the cold weather, so that more specimens cannot be obtained until Spring.

Besides this discovery, known to be of scientific value, Mr. Stoughton has made another in which he has great faith, but which lacks the conclusive proof within itself that attends the first. From his quarry at the "horse-race," he has split out, with much difficulty, a slab bearing one complete impression and a portion of another made by—something? Mr. Stoughton is positive that the track, which is 33 inches by 26, or twice the size of any ever found before, is that of some animal. There is the mark of the heel and the two sharp-pointed toes, apparently, in the perfect track, and the two toes in the incomplete track, indicating the path of some creature. Granting, however, that the impression was made by some animate force it is not so certain about its being the foot-print of any creature. The slab was taken out from under quite a high bluff, and Mr. Stoughton spent over $100 in cutting away the bluff to find a succession of the tracks, which, if found, would have proved at once, and conclusively, that they were made by some living animal. If so, it must have been one simply immense. But, as yet, no other tracks have been found in the small surface which it has been possible to lay bare. What next year's operations may reveal is, of course, entirely uncertain; but no effort will be spared to prove or disprove the truth about these immense impressions. Another very interesting fact about them is that they are filled with remains of vegetation, and that of a much larger growth than has usually been supposed to have existed in that period of the earth's formation. The carbon remains plainly evident therein indicate the existence of plants at that time as large as our Indian corn; and, surely, it is reasonable to suppose that the animals that made these tracks required for their sustenance a vegetation much above the lichens.

Mr. Stoughton has also taken out other slabs recently that are of a very interesting nature. One of them bears the tracks of that reptile that will probably prove to be unlike anything now known. The tracks are broader and less sharply pointed at the extremities than the others now described. One long slab bears a quaint historic record. There is a row of small tracks made by one of the marsupial tribe, the track of the forward foot being quite small compared with that of the hind foot, which comes down about half way across a slab several feet long. The animal then evidently met one of the three-toed reptiles, for there are several distinct tracks showing how they stepped around, and then walked on together. The steps being of the same length, and very regular, indicate that one did not flee before the other. Another very interesting slab is one showing most clearly the tracks of a great otozoon. Mr. Stoughton has arranged so as to display the exact course taken by the huge reptile, if such it was. The slab is some 20 feet one way by 30 or 40 feet the other, and shows how the track-maker stalked about in a kind of circle, probably enjoying the prospect. There are twenty-one distinct tracks on this slab alone, made—how many ages ago! And in these large tracks are those made by animals much smaller, somewhat as if a child should step in the footsteps of a man in the soft snow of Winter. Many of the slabs bear most perfect marks of the vegetation of that period, most of the plants being evidently of slender stem, like many waterplants now-a-days, while from them have been taken a kind similar to that of wheat. There are also those closely resembling the "little innocent," the familiar Spring flower. Other slabs are marked with fine lines, as though closely-growing vegetation had been swept down upon the plastic mud by the force of a strong and steady current. The impressions of ripples are very similar to our own, and also quite distinct. Many slabs are covered with what are supposed to be the marks of leaves, and others are dotted all over with the marks of larvæ.

There are two principal localities whence these tracks are quarried, the "horse-race" and the ferry. The former is some three miles up the river from the Turner's Falls dam, and shows quite a large working face of rock, the highest point being some 25 feet above the river, and the lowest below the water level, so that the excavations have to be kept baled out. The other quarry is at the ferry, near the dam. The workmen here have lately uncovered a huge impression of some kind. Its total length is some eight feet, the upper part being similar to the track an animal like a horse would make if, while lying down, it should throw one of its fore legs forward. The main body of the impression is filled with some kind of glistening rock, entirely unlike that around it, and which Mr. Stoughton hints may possibly be the petrified flesh of the animal. A short distance from the ferry there is a ledge, partially uncovered, where the tracks are not as well defined. In removing the traced slabs the rock is cut down in sections, its formation being such that it is taken up in layers as distinct and separate as the leaves of a book. Layer after layer is removed until the one containing the desired tracks is reached. The strata dip eastward, and the tracks have an easterly dip of from 30° to 35°, so that the best time for "taking observations" is between 3 and 4 o'clock in the afternoon, when the angle of the sun's rays is such that one side of the track will be lighted up brightly, while the other is dark, thus making a strong contrast. Although most of the sandstone rock here has an eastward dip, some strata are found to dip westwardly, as though the underlying trap-rock, by whose violent upheaval the surface of the earth was convulsed, giving the sand-stone the dip it has, was thrown up so violently as to destroy the prevailing dip, tipping the leaves in the opposite direction. An interesting search now will be to find casts in the westward dip corresponding to those in the eastward lay.

A common mistake with those unacquainted with the subject is to suppose that these fossil tracks exist only on river banks; they are, of course, really as abundant elsewhere, though found more easily where the water has worn away the overlying deposits. Mr. Stoughton has found very good impressions in a piece of woods half a mile from the river. Many times it happens that very perfect casts are taken out, while the corresponding impression is cracked and broken, as if the animals making the tracks had herded in that spot, and by tramping had destroyed the consistency of the mud. Another trouble in obtaining all that is valuable is through the ignorance of the workmen. If they find something like that previously found they save it; when if they strike something entirely new and strange, they are quite apt to throw it away as valueless. From the now countless number of tracks collected it is evident that in the sand-stone period animal life was extremely abundant. A more interesting point to many students touches the question of vegetable life on which the animals lived. It must certainly have been abundant, but the traces of it are most wonderfully and perplexingly scarce. Mr. Stoughton has about his house many of the various and interesting stones of which we have been speaking. His front walk is paved with slabs bearing the marks of slender and delicate vegetation. On his lawn is a huge mass of conglomerate brought from the "horse-race," which Profs. Agassiz and Marsh pronounced the finest specimen known. He has also a piece of sand-stone, in the centre of which is embedded the remains of a bone, apparently much like the scale of a sturgeon, etc.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

A KNOWING DOG.

Madison Sleeper, of Exeter, N. H., has a dog. A few days ago the dog went with Mr. Sleeper's son to the woods, and returned with him. In the evening the boy needed his mittens, and finding he had lost one, told where he had lost it, showing the other mitten. Suddenly the dog whined to go out and was let out. In about twenty minutes he returned with the lost mitten in his mouth, having gone a mile to the woods for it.

THRICE MARRIED.

A Justice of the Peace in Vermont was recently called on by a couple from Barton who desired to be married, but two weeks after the ceremony he remembered that the marriage was illegal, as being made out of the county where the couple belonged. So he went into their county and married them again. Some time after he recollected that he had not been qualified for office in their county, and taking the oath he again performed the ceremony.

AN AFFLICTED FATHER.

The Whitehall *Times* contains an appeal for aid for E. B. Murray, whose family afflictions have been severe almost beyond record. In July he lost his wife, and soon after a new-born babe followed its mother, leaving Mr. Murray with nine children, the oldest aged nineteen years. Two weeks ago diphtheria attacked his family. Thursday two children were buried, Saturday two more died, Sunday another, and Monday another, and Wednesday the seventh death in one week occurred.

GROWTH OF CHILDREN.

An old citizen of Dayton, who has raised two families, has been for many years in the habit of observing—among other things—the growth of the boys and girls, and makes some surprising assertions. He takes their measure in January and July, and has discovered that growing children grow far more between January and July than in the other half of the year. In fact almost the entire growth of the year is during the former period. This philosopher infers from this that all nature is harmonious, and that the physical growth of humanity is governed by the same laws which prevail over the vegetable kingdom.

BREACH OF PROMISE.

Unfortunate Jacob Kalkina, of New-Haven, has been sued for obtaining money under false pretenses, under curious circumstances. The information sets forth that on Dec. 1 the accused "wilfully and designedly, by color of certain false pretenses, did obtain from Sarah J. Hignall, $15 50, in lawful money of the United States, to wit, by pretending that he, the said Kalkina, would marry her, the said Sarah J. Hignall, and that he desired to have and hold said money to keep for the purpose of purchasing household furniture to be used by them as husband and wife, which pretenses were untrue and false, and were then and there made with intent to cheat and defraud her, the said Hignall, out of said sum of money.

A BIT OF INFORMATION.

Now that the papers are talking about the Nevada "bonanza," this little paragraph from the San Francisco *Alta* is timely: "We have been compelled to adopt the Spanish word *bonanza*. The idea is comparatively new in the experience of our English-speaking community, but the demand for some suitable expression for it is imperative, and we could not elsewhere find a term already familiar to many and so appropriate. For three centuries the Spaniards monopolized all the great silver mines of the world, and they learned all the terms of certainties of digging for argentiferous deposits. When they were working in a large body of rich ore they said the mine was in *bonanza*, akin in etymology to our "boon," and in meaning, to blessing; and when, on the other hand, the miner was searching at great expense and in disappointment in the barren strata for material that would pay, he said the mine was in a *borrasca*, or storm."

A RICH MAN'S POSSESSIONS.

The following estimates of the estate of the late Capt. Eber B. Ward, of Detroit, have been supplied by one of his executors, who, the Detroit *Tribune* says, regards them as somewhat below rather than above the real value of the property:

Wyandotte iron interest	$400,000
Lee and interests	100,000
Silver interests	250,000
Milwaukee iron works	500,000
Chicago interests	1,000,000
Ludington interests	1,000,000
Lands in Michigan and other States	250,000
Steam-boat and vessel property	150,000
Chrystal City glass works	175,000
Railroad property	750,000
Real estate in Detroit	125,000
Arizona copper interest	100,000
Total	$5,300,000

By Capt. Ward's will, which is an elaborate and business-like document, the entire property is left to his family and personal friends, there being no public bequests.

A SEND-OFF FOR A BRIDEGROOM.

An enthusiastic editor down in Georgia, one of whose friends has lately been married, sends his good wishes after him in this way: "Bachelor Wilcox had tested for a good long while all the pleasures, vicissitudes, and horrors of single blessedness, and came deliberately to the conclusion that it 'is not good for man to be alone.' Still in the very prime and vigor of manhood, while revolving this sage maxim in his mind, the bright fairy who has made him supremely happy crossed his pathway. Transfixed, enthralled, and completely subdued, the stout man of business forgot cotton bags and everything else, and became her devoted slave. Fortune smiled upon him, and his earnest and manly wooing was crowned with success. Hence the occasion for the paragraph which appears in another column today. Only one regret, we are sure, will dim the rosy future of the Major, and that is that he had not learned wisdom a little sooner. We wish the happy couple long years of unbroken connubial felicity." There is more of it but this will answer for the present purpose.

YOUNG IDEAS IN SAN FRANCISCO.

Some San Francisco school children gave such queer answers to questions put to them in their examination papers, that the newspapers printed them. Here are a few examples: "Man is the largest being on land." "The difference between a dog and a cow is, a dog has five toes in its front feet and four toes on its hind feet." "Deciduous means to dry up." "The lawyer constructs people." "Lawyers are peace makers." "Lawyers plead cases and use common sense." "The doctor saves people from dying, and is a very useful man for cutting off legs and heads." "Doctors are men. The lawyers, if you find some more in another man, and he did not pay you, you would go to suit, and get a divorce. Lawyers decide a case of trouble." In answer to "Give the names of two domestic animals and their uses," one child replied, "Geraph and Hipopotamus," Another replied, "Chickens—their uses are eggs. The cow—its uses is to give milk, and those two animals are farming ones." Being required to give "five parts of a tree," one boy wrote, "Top, botton, middle, and two sides."

DIDN'T KNOW THEY WERE BEING FIRED AT.

The Lynchburg *Virginian*, of Friday, says: "We are informed by a gentleman from Pincastle that quite an excitement was created at that place on Saturday last, by an impetuous lover essaying to take summary and sanguinary revenge for having been deserted by his former sweetheart. The parties belong to the good society of the place, and the affair set the town all agog. It seems that the young man had been engaged to the young lady for some time, but owing to the persistent opposition of her parents, and perhaps other causes, the engagement was recently broken off. This so enraged the lover that he is said to have made dire threats against her, if he ever saw her receiving the attentions of any other man. It appears that on Saturday afternoon, the young lady, accompanied by a male escort, passed a house in which the rejected suitor was. Seeing them, he went out and opened fire on her with a Smith & Wesson pistol, six barrels of which were discharged without, however, and fortunately, any of the balls taking effect. The couple were some little distance off, and were not aware that they were being fired at. He is said to have acknowledged the shooting afterward, and that others witnessed it."

THE WRONG KIND OF A CANDLE.

A Kentucky paper relates that during the Christmas holidays Starling Curd, an industrious colored man, living near Bristow, that State, gave an entertainment at his house. His wife asked him, coming to town the day before the frolic, to get a tall candle with which to ornament and illuminate the table. Starling called on H. C. Hines & Co. for the candle, but stated the case in such a shape that Mr. Hines thought he wanted a Roman candle. It was accordingly put up for him and Starling returned to his home, when his wife insisted that he had made a mistake, saying it was a candle she wanted. Starling assured her that it was the latest style of candle he had purchased, and, to prove it, stuck it to the fire. To the astonishment of both, a flaming ball popped out; then another, and another, when the frightened Starling dropped the "infernal machine" upon the floor. Another explosion, threatening the destruction of the house, and he again seized it, but, unfortunately, wrong end foremost, when a ball struck him in the abdomen. Suddenly turning it around, another ball shot out, striking a new counterpane, through which it burned a large hole. The whole household was in a state of terror, and Starling went to town the next day with a mind full of lawsuits for damages, but, being a fair-minded man, was pacified when it was explained that Mr. Hines misunderstood him.

NEW-JERSEY.

THE COMING SESSION OF THE LEGISLATURE.

A REPUBLICAN MAJORITY IN THE SENATE AND A DEMOCRATIC HOUSE—CANDIDATES FOR PRESIDING OFFICERS OF THE TWO BODIES—THE UNITED STATES SENATORSHIP.

The Legislature of New-Jersey will assemble in its annual session at the State-house in Trenton, on next Tuesday afternoon, and thus far but little can be foretold as to the organization. The Republicans have a majority of five in the Senate, and the Democrats have a majority of twenty-two in the House—the former body standing thirteen Republicans to eight Democrats, and the latter forty-one Democrats to nineteen Republicans—a Democratic gain of one in the former body and of thirteen in the latter, from the preceding Legislature. The Senate will re-elect President Taylor, of Essex, and for Secretary the contest will be between Mr. Babcock of Middlesex, who has held the office for four years, Mr. Irick, a former Senator from Burlington, and Mr. Voorhees, formerly Cashier of a Hunterdon County Bank, and late unsuccessful candidate for Surrogate in that County. Mr. Irick is said to have the support of several of the South Jersey Senators, who are nearly all Republicans, while Mr. Voorhees has much sympathy felt for him. A strong argument in his favor is that he comes from a section where Republican officials are scarce. Hunterdon County last year, for the first time in its history, elected a Republican Senator, (Mr. Potts,) and it is claimed that, by a recognition of the faithfulness of the party in maintaining its organization there amid constant defeats, it will be strengthened and enabled to make a better contest for the future, and also that, from ability to secure local offices, the party in the State should encourage it by now selecting its representative. Mr. Cloke, of Trenton, is also in the field, but will accept one of the minor clerkships if he fails to obtain the higher position. Mr. Hopper, of Passaic, will probably receive the complimentary Democratic nomination for President.

For the Speakership of the House the contest has apparently narrowed down to Mr. Gill, of Union, Secretary of the last Democratic State Committee and the author of its address to the voters of the State; Mr. Fitzgerald, of Essex, who is admitted to be the best qualified, having frequently occupied the chair at the last session with marked ability; Mr. Henry, of Passaic, who is the oldest member of that body and on his fourth term, although not consecutive, and Mr. Vanderbilt, of Mercer, whose main qualification is graduation from Princeton College with high honors. Mr. McGill, of Hudson, has withdrawn his name in order to facilitate the chances of his law partner (Attorney General Gilchrist) for the Senatorship. Mr. Shann, of Middlesex, who returns to the legislative halls after twenty years' absence, having by a remarkable circumstance again defeated his former opponent of that time, would also be willing to assume the position, while Mr. Henry, of Essex, is ready to be called higher if the majority should so decide. The objection to Mr. Gill is that he has not the dignity desirable for the position, and he is also under a cloud for alleged violation of the Sunday law in his own city—being the proprietor of a public-house in Elizabeth, and charged with selling liquor on the Sabbath. Mr. Fitzgerald failed to vote upon the bill before the last Legislature to give the Roman Catholics certain peculiar religious facilities in the State Reformatories, and has thereby encountered the opposition of a material portion of his party strength. At the late election he was vigorously opposed by two of the priests in Newark, and but for the support of Protestant Republicans who directly effectually rebuke this proceeding, would have been left at home—his district giving a handsome majority for Mr. Halsey, the Republican nominee for Governor. Mr. Henry is also not well fitted for the position by parliamentary knowledge. The indications, however, indicate that the choice will be between the first two, with the chances about even. The caucus will be held next Tuesday morning for a definite solution. The Republicans will probably compliment Mr. Morrow, of Essex, who is on his third term from a large German district in that county. Both he and Mr. Fitzgerald are lawyers in Newark, the latter a partner of Congressman elect Tesse, and the former a recent partner of United States Commissioner Whitehead, whose name has just been before the public in connection with Mr. Nettleship, of safe burglary notoriety.

For the Clerkship Mr. Chew, of Camden, the last Republican incumbent, retires after three years' service. Mr. Johnson, of Mercer, a former Democratic Clerk; Mr. Carpenter, late member from Hunterdon, and Mr. McDermott, of a Jersey City newspaper, are prominent candidates.

The first business of the session will be the reception of Gov. Parker's last message, to be followed the ensuing week with the inauguration, with the usual parade of the uniformed Militia and address of the new Governor, Bedle. Immediately succeeding this will be the election of a United States Senator to succeed Mr. Stockton. The leading candidates for Washington honors are that gentleman, Ex-Gov. Randolph, Attorney General Gilchrist, Ex-Attorney General Browning, Ex-Chancellor Williamson, and Jacob Vanatta, a prominent Morristown lawyer. All these gentlemen have strong opponents, as well as earnest friends, who are hard at work in presenting their own favorite in the best light, and in making combinations to defeat the others. The question is also affecting the Speakership, and it is understood that the selection of that officer will be regarded as an indication of the Senatorial preferences. Mr. Stockton's name has been a strong one, and faithful partisan, but unfortunately took the back pay, and voted for the Pacific Mail subsidy, and, it is also alleged, as a member of the Naval Committee, has leaned too strongly toward the action of Secretary Robeson—all of which his party have unqualifiedly condemned. Ex-Gov. Randolph is opposed as a friend of free trade—a doctrine which will be a little following in New-Jersey that two of the Democratic Congressmen elect (Messrs. Cutler and Teese) announced themselves as in favor of a protective tariff, and were elected by the votes of tariff men. It is also charged that he is an old "Knownothing," and some years ago issued a proclamation leaning toward the Orangemen in some difficulty with the Ribbonmen in Jersey City. Attorney General Gilchrist was an early Fremont and Lincoln Republican, who went off into the Democratic ranks with Andrew Johnson, and was made Attorney General by Gov. Randolph, then the State Executive, upon the promotion to the Cabinet of S cretary Robeson, who held the position. He has just announced that he will not use any money to secure the position, believing that the office should seek the man, and regarding even promises as indirect bribery. It is, therefore, almost safe to say that his

The New York Times.

TRIPLE SHEET.

NEW-YORK, SUNDAY, JAN. 10, 1875.

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Gen. SHERIDAN has sent in another report to the Secretary of War which is so far an improvement upon his previous dispatches that it does not call upon the President to give him absolute power in three States at present supposed to be governed under the provisions of the Federal Constitution and their own laws. A week's reflection has perhaps convinced Gen. SHERIDAN that the President has no power to issue such a proclamation as that which he called for last Monday, and that the putting to death of people under such a proclamation, even if it were issued, would not be an execution under the forms of law, but simple murder. Gen. SHERIDAN'S present story is that there was great disorder in the State Legislature of Louisiana on the 4th of January; that the "heard threats of assassinating the Governor," and that he believes the "military posse" alone prevented "scenes of bloodshed." Even if his impressions were well founded, his "banditti" dispatch would still remain without excuse. It has not hitherto been usual in this country to see Federal troops clearing out a State Legislature, and installing the officers of that Legislature at the bayonet's point. And we do not believe that the people of any part of the country approve of that means of solving a problem in State Government. It may be an effectual means, but it is not the one to which we have been accustomed on this side of the Atlantic. If Federal troops are henceforth to play this important part in Louisiana politics, the least we can ask is that they should be placed under a commander who is able to keep his head and his temper under proper control.

It is useless to lay all the blame of this melancholy incident in our history upon the President. That blame properly rests upon Congress, which has practically neglected its duties, and left the President to do whatever he might think proper at the moment. And it is only just to remember that the President, so far from courting this responsibility, has done his best to remit it to the proper quarter. He appears to be once more on the eve of making another appeal to Congress to deal with the difficulty, and we hope that this time it will not refuse. For it is quite clear that the President's policy is ruinous, not only to his party, but to the fundamental provisions of the Government. As for the party, it will ere long be driven to take care of itself; as for the laws, it is the bounden duty of Congress to look after them, and we trust that this week we shall see a willingness on its part to fulfill its solemn obligations.

It seems impossible to keep below fifty the weekly average of deaths from diphtheria in this City. Last week the record touched the lowest point for several months by showing only forty-three deaths. This week the number has risen to fifty-six. There is a persistency about this scourge of our infant population that is very distressing. It is simply monstrous that diphtheria should cause in New-York 2,500 deaths a year, when in the British metropolis, with three times the population, it carries off less than five hundred persons annually. If it were cholera or yellow fever, people would become alarmed, and the local authorities would be compelled to take prompt and effectual preventive measures. But as it is only a mere throat complaint, chiefly fatal to little children, it passes without a great deal of notice. One very instructive fact is the way in which the fatal influence of the disease creeps from the badly drained and overcrowded portions of the city into the districts possessing all the conditions of health. Last week there was one death from diphtheria on Madison avenue and Fifty-first street; this week there is one on Fifty-third street, and one on Seventy-third street, between Lexington and Fourth avenues, while there is a third on Fifth avenue and Sixty-seventh street, opposite the Park. The sanitary condition of the lower parts of the City cannot be neglected without danger to the health of the higher.

We should not wonder if some proportion of the increased mortality from contagious diseases last week were due to the total absence of any attempt to clean the streets. The Street-cleaning Bureau seems to be under the impression that the last snowfall remains as a standing excuse for leaving the streets untouched. The indications are that there will be another before the first serious attempt has been made to clear away the accumulations of dirt and slush that have passed through so many transformations during the past week without being any nearer removal. While the Police Department continues in some inscrutable way to get rid of the $20,000 a week appropriated for street cleaning, the seeds of disease are left ready on every thoroughfare to carry their fatal influence into the homes of the people.

It is highly probable that the French Imperialists have at no previous time since the war gathered together with such high hopes and determined spirits as on Saturday, when they met in large numbers at Chiselhurst to commemorate the second anniversary of the death of LOUIS NAPOLEON. They find encouragement in a hundred circumstances of the recent elections, and they are especially confident of future success in the rural districts, where they have achieved some noteworthy triumphs. But there really never was a time when their cause was in more danger than at present. The Republic is gaining strength day by day, and it will soon be able to withstand the most artful conspiracies which the cabal of Chiselhurst can originate.

A statement of the amount of the precious metals produced in the States and Territories west of the Missouri River during the year just closed is published by the Superintendent of WELLS, FARGO & CO.'S Express, at San Francisco. The value of this statement is better understood when it is known that the company referred to has such wide ramifications in the far Western States and Territories that the bullion and coin shipped from point to point either passes through their hands or is known to them as accurately as though it were. According to their report, prepared by Mr. J. J. VALENTINE, California, Nevada, Oregon, Washington Territory, Idaho, Montana, Utah, Arizona, Colorado, Mexico, and British Columbia produced the gross amount of $74,401,055 in gold, silver, and base bullion in 1874. This is a considerable increase over the product of 1873, which was the largest known up to that date, and was set down at $72,258,693. Dr. LINDERMAN, Director, of the United States Mints, however, claims that the yield of 1853 was greater than that of 1873. Be that as it may, the returns for 1874 are very gratifying, and experts are of the opinion that recent developments in the Comstock lode, Nevada, will justify the belief that the product of 1875 will approximate the magnificent sum of $80,000,000. It certainly ought to be as much as that, if, as some mining engineers say, there is not less than $1,500,000,000 in the celebrated "bonanza" just struck in the Comstock lode. Of the vast sum produced in 1874, Nevada gave the largest—$35,457,233, nearly all of which was silver bullion. California ranks second, sending out $20,300,531, of which more than $16,000,000 were in gold dust and bullion. Utah comes third, with a grand total of $5,911,278. These are all imposing figures, and they suggest something of the immense amount of wealth added to the circulation of the world during the past year.

"HOME RULE" WITH A QUALIFICATION.

Attentive readers of the Messages of our new Governor and our new Mayor can hardly have failed to detect one important difference between their respective ideal of Municipal government. Mayor WICKHAM declares without reservation: "We require 'Home Rule' in all our local affairs. We can govern ourselves and ought to be at liberty to do so." Gov. TILDEN, with rather more experience of public business, and with a good deal less liability to be misled by a mere party cry, shows that there is a vital exception to be made to the unlimited application of Mr. WICKHAM'S doctrine. He holds that a distinction ought to be drawn "between the power of electing or appointing the (local) officer, and the power to hold him to account." While the first ought to be vested in the voters of the locality, the second should, in the last resort, be vested in the State.

Incidentally, Gov. TILDEN suggests that the right of the State to remove is open to grave abuses inasmuch as it is capable of being made to destroy the local election or appointment. He is obviously as sensible as Gov. DIX was of the responsibility attaching to the concurrent power of removal vested in the State Executive, and we may assume that he is as little likely as his predecessor to exercise that power unless for very sufficient reasons. But the Governor holds that the right of the State to sue local officers accused of malversation is not susceptible of abuse, and that its complete acknowledgment is a necessary safeguard of official accountability. A local "Ring" may be complete enough to include the prosecuting officers, if not the very Judges, whose duty it is to try the persons accused of misappropriating public money. As has been frequently pointed out in these columns, the injured tax-payer has no standing in the courts. Decisions of individual Judges, not to mention a law passed by the Tweed Ring for their own ends, may be quoted in disproof of this. But as the Governor shows, the court of last resort has clearly ruled that "the individual tax-payer has no special interest, distinct from that of the public, which would enable him to sustain an action in person for the redress of a public wrong," of the kind perpetrated by the Tammany thieves.

The interminable delays in the prosecution of the suits instituted for the recovery of the money stolen by TWEED and his fellow conspirators turn upon the difficulty of finding, in cases of peculation by local officers, a proper party plaintiff. There is, undoubtedly, some danger of ultimate failure in the civil suits against the Ring. But that danger would not have been lessened had the decision of the Court of Appeals been anticipated, and the Board of Supervisors recognized as the proper parties to institute the suit. RICHARD O'GORMAN, the legal adviser of the board, was the appointee of the very men whom it was his duty to proceed against. Had the suits on behalf of the State had no existence, does any one suppose that the "match suits," approved by Mayor HALL, and instituted by the Ring Corporation Counsel, would have made any better progress than they did? The real defect in these cases has been the want of a clearly-established power on the part of the State, through its Attorney General, to step in to correct wrongs for which the local authority failed to discover a remedy. Mr. TILDEN, Mr. O'CONOR, and others believed that the State possessed that right as a natural inheritance from the common law system of England. The Court of Appeals decided that it did not, and thus some three years have been lost in disputing over a legal principle which Gov. TILDEN recommends should now be incorporated in the statute law.

In fact, the Democratic blatherskites who shout "Home Rule" with the slightest possible understanding of its legal or political consequences, are in direct antagonism to the men who are supposed to do the thinking for their party. Gov. TILDEN is unquestionably in accord with Mr. O'CONOR in the following very sweeping declaration: "There never has been within the United States, since our secession from Great Britain, or, at all events, within the State of New-York, any county, town, village, city, or other local district, which was, in the judgment of law, anything else than a public civil division of the State's territory, formed or recognized by the sovereign power for public purposes, and for the more convenient distribution of the powers of government or administration. And there never was in, or assigned to, any of these civil divisions, a lawful office or officer, or a corporation, or *quasi* corporation, or other entity, established or recognized for governmental purposes, that was not, in every sense, public, and amenable to the sovereign power of the State alone for the faithful exercise of its powers, including the receipt, keeping, and disposition of all funds intrusted to it, or that was, in any sense whatever, the agent, servant, representative or trustee of any individual person, or set, or class of persons." This is as far removed from the popular Democratic doctrine as it is from lightness of style. But it is a tolerably just statement of the limitations of "Home Rule" as applied to municipal government.

THE MINES OF MISSOURI.

If anything were lacking to complete the already abundant proofs that Missouri is to be the "England of the to-morrow," so far as relates to supplying the world with iron and coal, the annual reports of the St. Louis press, and the superb and thorough geological works issued by the State, would amply supply it. It was for some years the fashion to believe that the stories concerning the vast mineral wealth of Missouri were somewhat apocryphal, or at best due to the pardonable enthusiasm of the inhabitants of one of the foremost States of the Union. But it is now certain that the stores of iron, coal, lead, copper, nickel, cobalt, manganese, kaolin, and many other valuable minerals, liberally scattered throughout Missouri, are enormous in quantity and excellent in quality. From this it inevitably follows that St. Louis, which now boasts nearly four hundred and fifty thousand inhabitants, and is growing with amazing rapidity, will in the future be one of the great iron manufacturing centres of the world. Since 1870 many additions have been made to the number of iron works, and, until the recent prostration of the iron interest, the workmen employed by it in Missouri were numbered by tens of thousands. The relative situation of the ores to the coal and timber which must be used in smelting them, and the cheapness with which lands containing rich mineral deposits can be purchased in the State, render it very probable that, no matter how dull the times may be, the Missouri coal, iron, and lead fields will be rapidly developed.

The mining efforts of the State have, thus far, been chiefly directed to lead, iron, and coal, and to quarrying for the rare granites and excellent building stones to be found in many counties. Numerous disastrous experiments in the mining of copper were made a score of years ago, and, owing to the discouragement consequent upon them, there have been but few attempts at finding that mineral since. It is well known, however, that on hundreds of tracts of land in the State there is enough copper ore lying loose on the surface to supply capacious furnaces for many years. The wonderful stores of lead, zinc, and iron which lie in close proximity to each other in numerous counties are believed to be much more extensive than those in any other State. The iron region of Missouri is directly tributary to St. Louis, and is mainly situated in the south-eastern and southern portions of the Commonwealth. Through the great commercial capital of the South-west annually pass hundreds of thousands of tons of ore, which is drifted down the Mississippi and up the Ohio, in barges, to Pittsburg, where it is smelted. The famous "Iron Mountain," which is little else than a huge compact mass of iron ore, projecting upward from a lovely valley in South-eastern Missouri, contains ore enough to supply the United States for a hundred years with all the iron rails that can be desired. When the "Mountain" was first examined it was pronounced that the specular oxides found on the surface were too rich to work; and to this day, after many hundred thousand tons have been shipped from the rents in the mountain's rugged sides, there is still no difficulty in picking up a car-load of ore on the surface, or in washing a few tons out of the loose earth, much as gold is washed for in the Pacific States. Adjoining St. François County, where Iron Mountain is situated, is Iron County, in which are Pilot Knob and Shepherd Mountain, both of which are very rich in ores. Specular oxides abound in many counties, beds of bog-ore run for miles through the cypress swamps in the south-eastern part of the State, and hematite ores are plenty in the southern counties. When the works at Iron Mountain are run to their full capacity, one thousand tons of ore are taken daily from the cuttings. Pilot Knob has yielded about half a million tons since 1848. Along some of the rivers in Missouri iron crops out from bold bluffs, and can be mined and placed on barges which will float it to market for less than a dollar per ton.

The lead mining interest is at present very extensive, and when it was revived, in 1872, after a long stagnation, it created almost as much excitement as a genuine gold fever. Centuries ago DE SOTO stumbled upon the Missouri lead mines, but cared little for them, as he only wanted gold; and the French explorers, RENAULT and LA MOTTE, a century and a half ago, while looking for gold, were surprised at the immense extent of the lead deposits. The annual yield of the lead mines of Missouri in 1819 was three million pounds; in 1872 it was twenty millions, and it is now yearly increasing with astonishing rapidity. Thousands of immigrants from the States bordering on Missouri have flocked to the tracts of lead land owned by large companies, and have located "claims" there. They are not usually asked to pay anything for their claims, but are allowed to work them freely, and the mineral which they take out is purchased from them at fair prices by the proprietors of the lands and the furnaces. In many parts of the State this profitable industry has built up large and thriving towns. It is said that the area of the Missouri lead region comprises nearly seven thousand square miles, and the extension of railroads through some of the lead-bearing regions has added immensely to the material prosperity of the State.

The iron interests of Missouri show no tendency toward a revival at present, and may languish for some years. The panic of 1873 had the same disastrous effect upon them as upon so many other industries, and only the wealthiest of the companies keep any of their furnaces running. But when iron is once more in demand here, Missouri will enter the field as a most formidable competitor to older sources of supply. With twenty-six thousand square miles of coal within her own boundaries, and with the easily accessible coal fields of Illinois near her border; with cheap food in a new country, which is fast getting immigrants; and with vast masses of rich iron ores lying near the surface of the earth, she has every encouragement to make her mines one of the chief sources of her material greatness. But she cannot for the next few years hope for such rapid development as that which made the pig-iron producing capacity of Carondelet—a ward in St. Louis—in 1873, three times as much as that of the whole State in 1870.

DRESS.

If HERBERT SPENCER'S theory, that all progress is from the simple to the complex, is correct, the attire of the American woman of to-day shows an amount of progress which ought to—and doubtless would—astonish ASPASIA mightily. Man, however, reached his climax some time ago, in the matter of costume. Since PEPYS confided to his *Diary* the questions about buckles and ribbons which vexed his soul, and GOLDSMITH was dodging the tailor who made him his beloved "plum-colored velvet," man has retrograded into sober, simple costume. It is perhaps regret for his own vanished glories that induces him to regard woman as unduly devoted to fixings and furbelows. It is probable that Sir JOHN LUBBOCK wrote the sentence in which he stigmatizes love of ornament as one of the chief characteristics of savagery with subdued enjoyment, and that he showed it to Lady LUBBOCK—if such a person exists—with satisfaction and self-complacency. The weaker sex certainly has not lacked advisers of either sex to show it the errors of its way and its wardrobe. The recent Woman's Congress in Chicago discussed dress reform with destructive vigor. The foes of the corset maligned it by the hour and displayed their suspenders as proofs of their emancipation from prejudice and as foreshadowings of their coming to man's whole estate. More than one physician, indeed, has advised a compromise garb, half way between the styles now worn by the two sexes, and LUCCA has shown, in her page's attire as *Mignon*, that such a costume may be as dainty as heart could wish. Such a sweeping change, however, must find footing in the far future, if anywhere. Reform moves as slowly in dress as in politics. Some English artists of high repute tried, some time since, to substitute certain tasteful designs of their own for the season's fashion plates, but the scheme did not succeed. The famous art-firm with which Mr. WILLIAM MORRIS is connected is said to contemplate ornamenting the persons, as well as the houses, of its patrons, but has not yet carried the design into effect. One or two feminine artists in London have lately done something in this way. M. CHARLES BLANC, the brother of the ex-revolutionist, has just published a book on the art of dress. The work shows the French passion for generalization, as when M. BLANC observes that bonnets are always worn large "when religion is the fashion," but it is full of shrewd sayings. The author discusses the color and form of the raiment of each sex, and plays barber, shoemaker, dressmaker, milliner, and tailor by turns. He objects to the expanse of white linen revealed by a man's dress-suit, but fails to suggest a good substitute. That substitute is certainly not to be found in a vest cut close to the throat. A double-breasted vest is the only semi-graceful form of that ungraceful garment, and this is too heavy to harmonize with full dress, which, by an odd contradiction of terms, must be lighter than half dress. A man bisected by buttons from his waist up to his neck is not a pleasing object. M. BLANC puts his general theory into a nutshell thus: "Adornment should serve only to make the woman thus adorned admired. Men often say, 'We have seen some beautiful dresses.' Ah, well, if the dainty dresses had been still more dainty, they would say, 'We have seen some beautiful women.'"

There is this to be said for the dress of to-day—it is picturesque. A lady of 1875 need not fear to step, clad as she is, into a portrait which is to hang beside one of a lady of 1775. There is a rich and a real beauty about the costumes which fits both for the immortality of canvas and oil. Midway between these years, however, there was a dull, stiff ugliness of attire which makes those of its wearers who were unfortunate enough to be painted in that day ludicrously unpleasing now. A Grecian beauty of the olden time, when Athens had the Parthenon and did not have the Paris fashions, would outshine the belles of 1775 and 1875 together, not—let us say it with due deference to the rhapsodizings of M. TAINE—because she was in herself more beautiful, but because the spectator would not have his attention distracted by yards of dress to inches of woman. "The adornment serves only to make the woman thus adorned admired." The picture is not lost in the frame. The exquisite classical costumes worn by the actresses in GILBERT'S "Pygmalion and Galatea," during its long run on the London boards, are said to have had a powerful influence in encouraging taste in dress in England. Their perfection deserved some such reward. Recent American fashions seem to show that some cause is working similar results here. It would be a consummation devoutly to be wished, for human ingenuity can devise nothing more beautiful than the simple, yet stately, garb of Greece.

AN ALSATIAN CHRISTMAS TREE.

Since the last war, the Alsatians resident in Paris have had "Christmas trees," which every year have been surrounded by a crowd of worthy patriots, who, while overflowing with Gallic zeal, and burning with desire to undertake a crusade against Germany in pursuit of vengeance, seemed merely engaged in applauding the holiday sports of a band of refugees. The Prussians would be not a little surprised if Paris should, some fine morning, hand them down from the Alsatian tree the cheery gift of another sanguinary war. They sneer at the Alsatian "mountebankery," as they often call the testimonials of friendship and affection which the people of the conquered provinces manifest toward the French, so lately their fellow-citizens. But they forget that the annual meeting around the Alsatian Christmas tree is a regular reminder of the coming struggle into which France, whether wisely or unwisely, seems determined to enter.

This year the great *salle* of the Chatelet Theatre was the scene of the Alsatian holiday festivities. The great green tree's "faithful branches" were loaded with myriads of presents for Alsatian and Lorraine children. The money to buy the gifts had been contributed in abundance, by subscriptions raised by the principal newspapers, by the generous hands of Deputies, high military and civil authorities, municipal councilors, artists, actors, soldiers, and thousands of benevolent ladies. Republican regimental bands blew martial music as they sat beneath republican tricolors, in which the theatre was almost smothered. Hundreds of the celebrities of all the great circles of Paris were present at the festivities. The poor of the great city had not been forgotten, and long processions of children from the "people's quarter" were marshaled in the hall, and marched to the tree to receive their Christmas gifts. Two thousand boys and girls were made happy with some souvenir of the joyous holiday time. Then an Alsatian poet, standing under the flag to which he had maintained his allegiance at the cost of exile from his native province, recited a poem in which he recounted the heroic conduct of the French in the war, and compared the sparkling Christmas fir-tree to a flaming beacon which Paris had lighted to draw the children of Alsatia and Lorraine to her. All this was petty, even childish, in the eyes of the scoffing Germans. But underneath the simple and peaceful nature of this kindly festival ran an undercurrent, fierce and strong, of national feeling, intensified by the violent opposition which it has encountered along the Rhine frontiers. In the crowd of thousands who surrounded the Christmas tree were great numbers of men and women who had voluntarily left the lost provinces when Prussian rule began in them, and who brought to Paris new assurance of the truth which it has believed from the first—that the hearts of the people of those provinces were wholly French in sentiment, in affection, and ambition. Each fresh testimonial of that fact is an added danger to Prussia, and to all Germany. The feeling that the cause of the Alsatians and Lorrainers is a holy and just, as well as a patriotic, one, has long been growing more and more intense in the breasts of Frenchmen.

The Parisians did not gather about the Alsatian Christmas tree merely to join in the gayety or to breathe defiance to the Prussian enemy under its boughs. Nor could they have done so, for there were too many sorrowful memories mingled with the remembrances of the tree and its anniversaries. All Paris saw—all France at least heard of, that ghastly, yet wonderfully effective sketch which a Parisian artist exhibited to the public of the French capital in that dread Christmas week when the horrors of the siege were at their height. It was a sketch of the immemorial fir-tree, but its branches were not laden with sparkling lights, bon-bons, and mysterious packages filled with pleasant surprises. Over this tree the genius of war spread his sombre wings, and from the unlighted and unblest boughs hung myriads of slain soldiers—French and Prussian—in appalling mockery of the terrible slaughter then waged in unhappy France. In the distance could be seen the lurid light from burning villages, contrasted with the shadows which overhung battlefields on which the disordered dead were thickly piled. This sketch, was called the "Christmas Gift of Emperor William to France," and this the Alsatian tree, which yearly rears its shining front in Paris, must inevitably call to mind.

HEALTHY EATING.

A good deal of advice is given to the American public from time to time, as to what constitutes a healthy diet, both as to the dishes of which such a diet should be made up, and as to the manner in which they should be prepared. But, while it is almost hopeless to get any general agreement in regard to these matters, we believe there is one suggestion that could be considered with advantage by every one, whatever his tastes may be as to the food he selects or the way in which he likes it cooked. That suggestion is very simple. It is that all food should be thoroughly chewed before being swallowed. Whether we like hearty meals or light ones; whether we prefer our meats roasted, or broiled, or fried; whether we take kindly to bread and vegetables, or incline to pastry, it is certain that the observance of this simple rule will go a great way toward protecting us from injury, and securing for us the full benefit of what we eat. So nicely, indeed, is the machinery of digestion adjusted, that this single precaution may be relied upon to exclude from our plates, or at least from our palates, any variety of food that is seriously unfitted to nourish the system.

The physiological basis of the rule is very simple, and will not, we think, be disputed by any one. It lies in the fact that the effects, both mechanical and chemical, of thorough mastication, are the same as those secured by the action of the lower digestive organs. We say lower because, as a matter of fact, the teeth and the salivary glands are as essentially, in the intention of nature, a part of the digestive organs, as the stomach and the liver. The service which the saliva is capable of performing, if we would only give it time and opportunity, is strongly analogous to, if not identical with, that required of the gastric juice. And in a general way, it may be said that the more nearly the food is reduced to a fine pulp in the mouth, the less remains for the other portions of the digestive apparatus to do, the more easily and completely their task is performed, and the more perfect is the preparation of the food for its purpose—the formation of blood and the nutrition of the whole body.

These are very elementary truths, but they are little known and less regarded. If we are content to ignore them for ourselves, as is the case with most of even those who are entirely familiar with them, we might, at least, enforce them on the attention of our children. We could hardly do these little creatures a greater service than to require them to form the habit of eating slowly, in small mouthfuls, and masticating their food well. LA FONTAINE says, in the preface to the first edition of his fables, that "if we would not be reduced to correcting our habits we must labor to form good ones in minds that are as yet indifferent to good or ill;" and the wise saying of the witty moralist of 200 years ago is confirmed by the latest and most complete physiological research. Two results are sure to flow from a careful habit of eating: one that we will not eat too much, and the other that we will gradually acquire an instinctive aversion to unhealthy food. When a man "bolts" his food, giving it only a momentary opportunity to gratify the palate, and then sending it headlong to the stomach, he is liable to take a great deal more than he can readily digest, because the sense of taste, only rapidly and slightly exerting itself, is not sated until long after the amount has been exceeded of which the stomach can properly dispose. And on the other hand, in the rapid process, the taste has no opportunity to assert its real power of choice. It is placed at the entrance of the digestive system, not only as one of the most important members of it, but as a guard and sentinel to protect the other members. But what can be expected of it when we crowd upon and past it a mass of matter which it has no time to examine. Treat it fairly, and the sense of taste would demonstrate its power to do ample justice to its duties, and to this end nothing is necessary but an adequate reduction of the food by the combined working of the teeth and the salivary secretions. And it may be added that adhesion to the very simple rule suggested would not only be of the greatest benefit to health, but would indefinitely increase the pleasures of the table. Those who follow it will steadily develop their capacity to tell good from bad or indifferent food, and will, moreover, increase their natural and delicate enjoyment of the former.

READING FOR THE POOR.

It may seem a little strange that people should need urging to give their superfluous reading matter to the poor. But the State Charities Aid Association have more opportunities for distributing this gratuitous matter than they are able to embrace. The supply is liberal; that it is not more abundant is undoubtedly owing to the fact that this modest and useful charity is not more generally understood. Languishing in hospitals, or temporarily housed in other institutions under control of the Department of Public Charities, are many persons who are too poor to buy books, newspapers, or magazines. It is not practicable to supply these people with reading at the public expense. Their lives are dreary enough at best, and many of them who hunger for mental employment of some kind are made very miserable by the hopeless ennui which this privation causes them. It was a happy thought of some good people to attempt to utilize for these a part of the vast amount of current literature wasted every day. Receiving-boxes were put up in some of the railroad depots, and wayfarers were invited to deposit therein the newspapers and magazines which they did not care to preserve. The result has been very gratifying. Many people who travel daily in and out of the City by the way-trains have easily dropped into the habit of leaving their transient reading matter in the boxes provided for that purpose. More would do this if they did not in their hurry overlook these receptacles, or if they were once informed of this economical arrangement for saving that which they daily throw away. But, as we have said, the response made to these modest appeals has not been so general as we might wish, and it seems a pity that such an opportunity for doing good unobtrusively should be lost.

One of the unsolved puzzles of the age is, What becomes of all the pins? When one sees what an immense amount of printed matter is daily distributed in the limits of this City, he may well wonder what becomes of it. Doubtless most of it finds its way into the fire; but it is a poor use to put magazines and newspapers to, which might rejoice the hearts and relieve the dreariness of thousands of sick, wounded, or prostrate people. Any one who has passed through the hospitals has seen something of the inexpressible weariness of the poor patients who have no friends to cheer them nor employment for the mind. If the reader, who throws away his once-read newspaper or magazine like a useless thing, will recollect the maxim, "put yourself in his place," he will realize how much the sick man in the hospital prizes the printed page brought him by the friendly distributor. Such reading matter is faithfully distributed and thoroughly used. There must be in many houses a great bulk of worn books, pamphlets, and other printed matter that might be set going once more on a merciful errand after it has been enjoyed by original owners. Of course the main reliance of the association is upon the more ephemeral issues of the press; these are more readily given away by their owners. Religious, French, and German newspapers are much sought after, and the intelligent reader of these lines knows just what will be good to send the association. As already noted in THE TIMES, persons who have anything to give this fund of reading will find boxes at the Grand Central and Thirtieth Street Depots; at the Training-school, No. 314 East Twenty-sixth street, and at the rooms of the State Charities Aid Association, No. 52 East Twentieth street. We are sure that this hint will be sufficient to induce the readers of THE TIMES to be a little saving of their reading matter, and put it where it will do a great deal of good.

SPANISH GRANDEES.

We published a document a few days ago which forcibly recalled to us the homely adage that "fine words butter no parsnips." It was addressed by the noblesse of Spain to the young Prince who, a few days later, was proclaimed King, and was couched in language that, even in translation, sounded very stately and sonorous, but, read in the magnificent original, was no doubt tenfold more grandiloquent. It would have pleased many people better if the Grandees had thought proper to further improve the occasion by a few words about themselves. It would have been satisfactory to learn that they recognized in the deplorable condition of their country the consequences, in no slight degree, of the defects in their own order, and to have heard that it was their firm resolution to turn over a new leaf, and do their duty in their state of life. But duty is a word which the Spanish Grandee has never yet included in his vocabulary, at least in the Anglo-Saxon sense of it. "They cry 'Viva,' and are very fond of us," wrote WELLINGTON, in 1812, "but they are in general the most incapable of useful exertion of all the nations that I have known; the most vain, and at the same time the most ignorant." To none in Spain did these remarks apply with more justice than to the Grandees.

"Tyrants (said ALONZO the Wise) prefer acting for their own interest, although contrary to the good of the country, to acting for the common advantage of all, because they always fear to lose their crown. And that they may work their will the more easily, they always use their power against the people in three modes of subtle policy. The first is to make their subjects foolish and fearful."

This policy was long pursued in Spain, and with complete success. It reduced the Spanish nobility to about as low an ebb as can well be reached. Instead of being, like that England which in their letter the Spanish nobility now think proper to glorify, scattered broadcast through the land to shed a salutary influence around, the Spanish Grandees have resided with the court. In fact, for a long period the court never allowed them to leave its precincts, whether in Madrid or in the neighborhood. It is recorded that when one of them asked permission to visit his estates he was told that if he went he must stay. They were consequently, and have been up to the present time, almost always absentees, and while their enormous estates were neglected, spent all that they could draw from them to shine in society at Madrid. Agriculture, commerce, and manufactures remained dormant, the peasantry were burdened, and received no aid or encouragement, and nothing was done by the great proprietary to develop the wonderful resources of the richest country in Europe. "The whole kingdom," wrote a visitor the year before Waterloo, "is one large Castle of Indolence. A Spaniard with a tolerable house to cover him, money enough to pay for his existence, and a bad cigar, is quite indifferent to what the world may do or think. While other nations were projecting a reform of their government, they never supposed such a step to be more in their own power than to lengthen the day or alter the seasons."

From only intermarrying among themselves two great evils have resulted to the noblesse—they have no link with the people, and they have degenerated physically and intellectually. A young Guardsman having omitted at court to make the usual salaam to a great nobleman, excused himself by saying that he was not aware of his Grace's exalted rank. "My friend," said the candid Duke, "the safest way is to suppose everybody in the palace who looks like a monkey to be a Grandee of the first class"—recalling POPE'S bitter definition of how to look like a nobleman—"to look as noblemen do not, but ought to, look."

Notwithstanding all their resources have been concentrated in the capital, the nobility utterly failed by such concentration to make that magnificent show that HORACE WALPOLE went into ecstasies over when he visited the hotels of the French noblesse. They were too deficient in intellect and a love of art to do this. A very acute observer describes the mansion of the Duke of Medina-Celi, the grandest in Madrid, as resembling ten houses taken from Baker street, which THACKERAY has rendered proverbial for dullness and dinginess. And again, speaking of their social life, he says: "Our extended dinner society is all but unknown, except in the houses of the diplomatic corps, and some few of the nobles, rich jobbers, placemen, and contractors, and those who, having emigrated, find that the whole art of cookery is not condensed in a pipkin. The grandees dine, indeed, with the foreign Ministers, but with little reciprocity. Their hospitality consists in dining with any foreigner who will ask them." There is not much chance for improvement, in rural Spain especially, while this dead weight of an effete aristocracy, with encumbrances like those of a Galway Squire before the Encumbered Estates Court came into operation, burdens it. If anything could teach a people sense and reason, it might be imagined that the history of Spain during the last five years might do so; but a Spaniard seems to have an obtuseness in learning lessons of experience such as no other people in the world are afflicted with.

SHOCK OF EARTHQUAKE IN CANADA.

NORVAL, Canada, Jan. 9.—A slight shock of earthquake was distinctly felt here and in our vicinity yesterday afternoon.

AMUSEMENTS.

MUSICAL.

YESTERDAY'S SYMPHONY CONCERT.

The third of Mr. Thomas' series of six symphony concerts, at Steinway Hall, occurred last evening. The announcements of Mr. Thomas' fine entertainments are always potent to draw together a large audience, and the promise of his programmes is never left unfulfilled by an unsatisfactory performance. Yesterday's recital was attended by the usual results, in respect of both audience and impression. The first number executed was Gluck's overture, "Paris and Helen," a composition not particularly characteristic of its author's genius, but an excellent specimen of his clear and vigorous writing. Mr. Remmertz then sang the basso's grand air, from "Euryanthe," an opera which for some unaccountable reason, has not, within our recollection been given in this City. Much of the music of Weber's time has grown old, and, so to speak, out of fashion, but the works of the author of "Der Freyschütz" sound to us as fresh and as full of color and life as the newest lyric dramas. Mr. Franz Remmertz's voice and style scarcely did justice to the broad phrasing and the strong contrasts of the air and recitative he interpreted; we do not know, however, where Mr. Thomas could find an acceptable substitute for him, and as Mr. Remmertz brings to his tasks agreeable tones, a delivery simple and correct, and a remarkably fine presence, he is, as a rule, generously, and not injudiciously, applauded. The principal piece on the programme followed the air from "Euryanthe." We should like to hear Raff's Sixth Symphony once or twice more before forming an opinion of its worth. It is certainly a most elaborate achievement, in which the unquestioned skill of the composer of "Im Walde" as a writer for the orchestra has abundant illustration; but it seems to us that it is neither so attractive as the "Lenore" symphony or as "Im Walde," nor so original, even, in thought. There are some delightful passages in the first and second of the four movements of the sixth symphony, but the general effect of the score is rather vague. It is, in fact, easier to write imitative music than music illustrative of so mysterious a motto as "Gelebt, gestrebt; gelitten, gestritten; gestorben, umworben;" and the meaning of the Sixth Symphony is far harder to reach than the significance of its predecessors. Two hearings of so important a production are, in any case, insufficient to determine even the measure of its popularity, and we believe that a repetition of the magnificent rendering of yesterday would be welcomed by everybody. The second part of the programme opened with two excerpts from Wagner's "Walküre." The first is called "Wotan's Farewell," the second "The Fire Charm." To make them wholly intelligible, it would be necessary to print the plot of the opera, which is one of the ring of "The Nibelungen," to be represented at Baireuth in 1875. Lacking the space, it must suffice to remark, in explanation of "The Fire Charm," that *Brünhilde*, a Walküre, having offended *Wotan*, her father, is reduced to the condition of a mortal, with the additional penalty of remaining in deep sleep till awakened by a man, whom she shall at once marry whatever his caste may be. *Brünhilde* implores her father not to condemn her to such a horrid fate, at least to permit the mortal who shall awaken her to be a knight of valor. All the old paternal love springs up anew in the breast of *Wotan*. His dignity as a god and love for his daughter stand in combat. *Brünhilde*, while submitting to *Wotan's* sentence, implores him prostrate to guard her from approach by a circle of fire. *Wotan* grants this request, and after kissing her on both eyes, they remain closed and she sinks into sleep. Then, placing her on a mossy hill over which a great fir tree bends its protecting branches, he closes her helmet and covers her with the large shield of the Walküre. With solemn, determined step he advances to the middle of the stage, calls on *Loge*, the fire-god, and turning to a massive rock strikes it three times with the point of his spear when a stream of fire issues forth therefrom, which by degrees increases to large flames that spread around. *Wotan* is enveloped by a luminous atmosphere. He points with his spear at the flames and orders them to surround the base of the hill, and inclose the lovely *Brünhilde*. Then stretching it forth toward the encircling flames, formally declares: "Whoever fears the point of my spear, never attempt to pass through this fire." Having thus thrown protection over her he moves through the fire toward the back of the stage, and the immortal gradually becomes invisible. The music allotted to *Wotan* did not strike us as remarkable, but the orchestral passages in which the birth and approach of the flames are described by methods plainly Wagnerian and exceedingly felicitous though not unfamiliar, are very forceful. The perfect recital of this particularly exacting number of the programme by Mr. Thomas' orchestra brought about an enthusiastic recall for the conductor. The evening terminated with a splendid performance of Beethoven's Fifth Symphony. We are glad to note that there will be a Thomas matinée next Saturday, and an extra concert Monday evening week, in which last affair Mr. Constantin Welkert, a pianist from Leipzig, will make his début in this country.

PARK THEATRE.

A season of opera bouffe will be entered upon at the Park Theatre to-morrow. "Le Voyage en Chine" will then have its first representation in this country. The artists are M. De Quercy, Mlle. Minelli, M. Debeer, Mlle. Gandon, and several other performers, who until yesterday week delighted Havana audiences. New-York audiences are quite able to maintain one French-speaking troupe at a time, and we hope they will show themselves inclined to do so in this instance.

DRAMATIC.

WALLACK'S THEATRE.

There is no abatement in the interest which attaches to "The Shaughraun," and it becomes a kind of agreeable monotony to chronicle week after week, the success of this admirable drama. To define with precision the causes of that success would be to commit one's self to elaborate eulogy. Superlatives would probably become exhausted in the attempt, and so we prefer to say in general terms that it fulfills every requirement of a romantic drama of the Irish type. The play itself is a marvel of its kind. In ready wit, brisk dialogue, strong situations, and happily-contrived love passages, unblemished by sentimental absurdities, "The Shaughraun" is infinitely the best of Mr. Boucicault's Irish plays, while in the matters of scenery and cast hostile criticism cannot touch it. As to its probable "run" we could offer no speculation beyond saying that it should be one of the longest upon record, did we not have reason to believe that it must be withdrawn at the end of March.

LYCEUM THEATRE.

Mrs. Rousby has produced a most favorable impression upon the public, and the audiences at the Lyceum Theatre during the week just ended have been large and fashionable. The lady's performance of *The Princess Elizabeth* in "Twixt Axe and Crown" is not likely to be classed with the memorable efforts of the period, but it can be spoken of as an intelligent, earnest, and refined personation; and this is saying a good deal. The entertainment is thoroughly wholesome, and very creditable in an artistic sense, and it is evident that it affords great satisfaction to that still numerous portion of the public whose taste has not become depraved by the wretched pieces which, a few months ago, held well-nigh undivided possession of the local stage. "Twixt Axe and Crown" will, under the circumstances, be represented nightly until further notice. Mrs. Rousby's engagement being limited to four weeks, Mr. Taylor's play may keep the boards until it terminates.

UNION SQUARE THEATRE.

"The Two Orphans" at the Union Square Theatre has now fairly entered on a long career of prosperity. We can see nothing like a near limit to its attractiveness, while all the indications are in favor of the supposition that it will carry the management, not merely through the Winter season, but most probably to the beginning of May. The play improves as it is presented more frequently, and additional emphasis appears to be given to the strong situations in which it abounds. The introduction of a snow-storm in the fourth tableau, the "Place St. Sulpice," has proved especially effective. It was the intention to present this in the first instance, but some mechanical derangements interfered with the project. These stage snow-storms have a marvelously realistic effect, and are of infinitely more value in theatrical matters than was contemplated by the brilliant poet-satirist who coupled the name of Mr. Rich, the Drury Lane Manager, with "snows of paper and fierce hail of peas." The poet of Twickenham was not perhaps a good judge as to the worth of these theatrical accessories, or he might have been more tolerant of these mimic disturbances of the elements, the provision for which is now essential in every well-managed theatre. The popularity of "The Two Orphans" has been settled beyond question, and this is sufficiently proved by the best test in such matters—a theatre crowded every night.

FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE.

To-morrow night Mr. Daly produces "The Merchant of Venice," after the fashion in which it was played at the St. James Theatre, London—that is to say, with each act comprised within the limits of a single scene. According to this arrangement the play will be performed in four acts. It will receive an elaborate setting—new scenery and every necessary adjunct being provided. Mr. E. L. Davenport appears as *Shylock*, and Miss Carlotta Leclercq is cast for *Portia*. Some of the principal members of Mr. Daly's stock company will also take part in its representation. A Parisian novelty is announced as in preparation at the Fifth Avenue Theatre, and its production is promised in a short time.

BARNUM'S HIPPODROME.

Mr. Barnum's celebrated hippodrome entertainment will soon be brought to a termination, and then the entertaining manager will make ready for a grand tour through the States. His recent reduction of the prices of admission appears to have worked well, and as a result he has twenty thousand pilgrims daily visiting what he aptly describes as his Mecca of Amusement. With the reduction of prices there has been no abatement of attractions, which are now of remarkable variety. The performances are, as usual, at 2:30 and 8 o'clock.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES.

"Little Em'ly" continues to be played successfully at Booth's Theatre, and no change of bill is announced so far. Preparations are, however, in progress for the production of "Henry V.," which will be presented with unusual pageantry. Mr. Charles Calvert, who superintends its production, and Mr. George Rignold, who fills a principal rôle, are on their way from England.....At the Park Theatre *Col. Sellers* has ceased to speculate, and the house will now be given over to French opera bouffe.....There is no change in Mr. Maccabe's entertainment at Robinson Hall, and the appreciation of large audiences is as steadfast as need be.... The romantic drama entitled "Edmund Kean" is set down for performance at Wood's Museum during the week, and at the Wednesday and Saturday matinées. "The Working men of New-York" will be played at the other matinée performances.....Marietta Ravel plays tomorrow evening at the Bowery. The drama entitled "The French Spy," and the play "Putnam, the Iron Son of '76," supplemented by a new ballet pantomime are the attractions.....The Olympic has a very full variety programme, which includes an aquatic performance by Mr. J. B. Johnson, the champion swimmer of the world....Mr. Bryant and the San Francisco Minstrels meet all the public requirements in the matter of ministreley entertainments.

DISASTROUS CONFLAGRATION.

SEVERAL BUILDINGS DESTROYED AT HONESDALE, PENN.—AGGREGATE LOSS OVER $170,000.

From Our Own Correspondent.

PORT JERVIS, N. Y., Saturday, Jan. 9, 1875.

Honesdale, Penn., the terminus of the Honesdale Branch of the Erie Railway, was the scene of a most disastrous conflagration yesterday morning. It broke out at an early hour in the building belonging to S. G. Throop, and occupied by William Seaman as a jewelry store, Katz's dry goods store, and the millinery store of Mrs. Sheffler, on Main street, at one end of the lateral basin bridge of the Delaware and Hudson Canal. There being no water in the canal, and the water-works of the place furnishing insufficient water, the fire spread rapidly. In the rear of the building first on fire, fronting on Sixth street, was Snyder's building, occupied by the largest dry goods store in Northern Pennsylvania. This was soon in flames, but a portion of its contents was saved. Two large frame buildings adjoining this, on Sixth street, owned by R. J. Menner & Co. and Salmon & Dilezenne, used as store-rooms, were next destroyed. From Deidrich's brick building, on the corner of Main and Sixth streets, the flames communicated to the hardware store of Baker & Bennett, on the opposite side of Sixth street, and swept down the street. Samuels' clothing store, Freeman & Barrant's clothing store, Weiss' large grocery, the residence of Morris Frankel, the residence and restaurant of William E. Teubner, Matthews' three-story brick building, several frame buildings occupied by stores, and the large and imposing hotel of Michael Cayne were successively destroyed. The burned district covers a space of two blocks, in the heart of the business part of the village. Although the most strenuous efforts were made by the citizens and firemen, no control could be obtained over the fire until it reached Cayne's Hotel. This being a very large four-story brick building, it presented such an obstruction to the flames that their further progress was stayed. Some of the buildings destroyed were new, belonging to parties who were turned out of the opposite side of the street some months ago. Among these were Snyder's store and the Knapp Building.

The losses and insurances are as follows, as near as can be ascertained: S. G. Throop, building, $1,500 insured for $1,000; Mrs. Sheffler, stock, $1,500; partially insured; William Seeman, stock, $8,000; insured for $4,000; books also lost; William J. Katz & Co., stock, $9,000; insurance, $6,000; Mrs. Heudreon, $300; no insurance; Isaiah Snyder, buildings, $15,000; stock, $40,000; stock insured for $30,000; J. Blumenthal, stock, $2,000; insured for $1,000; F. Dittrich, building, $12,000; stock, $3,000; insurance, $5,000; Baker & Bennett, stock, $8,000; insured for $5,500; M. B. Bennett, building, $4,000; insurance, $1,000; Robert Seaman, stock, $1,000; no insurance; J. Freeman, building, $2,500; stock, $4,000; loss partially covered by insurance; Wm. Weiss, stock, furniture, and building, $15,000; partially insured; J. & S. Levi, stock and building, $8,000; insurance unknown; William Teubner, building, $5,000; stock, $1,500; light insurance; Samuels Bros., building, $3,000; insured; J. R. Schenck, building and stock, $5,000; partial insurance; James Matthews, building, $3,500; insured; Coyne estate, building, $10,000; stock and furniture, $4,000; insured for $7,000 on house, and $1,100 on stock.

There are many minor losses on stock and damage to buildings, aggregating about $5,000, partially insured. The aggregate loss by the fire is $170,000, and total insurance $80,000.

THE MISSING CHARLIE ROSS.

THE HORSE THAT MOSHER DROVE SAID TO HAVE BEEN FOUND IN A NEWARK STABLE—HOW IT CAME THERE.

From the Newark Courier, Jan. 9.

It having been rumored that the horse that carried Charlie Ross from his home was in Van Fleet's stables, in this city, a *Courier* reporter visited the stables on Fair street this morning for the purpose of ascertaining the facts connected with the report. Mr. Van Fleet states that on Friday, the 22d of October last, a well-dressed boy, seventeen or eighteen years of age, brought a horse to his stables to be kept until the following Monday. The animal was very poor and had the appearance of having been turned out in the woods. There were burs sticking in his mane and tail, and the hair seemed to have turned a reddish color. He was bay or brown, about 15½ hands high, and had a white star on his forehead, and one hind leg was white for some distance above the fetlock. There is a sort of projection on the jaw that might be a wen. The boy did not call for the horse on the following Monday, as he had promised. But on that day Mr. Van Fleet met him in a Mulberry street horse car. He was accompanied by a lady, about twenty-five years of age, and quite genteel in manners and dress. They had baggage with them and conversed freely and pleasantly, stating that they were going on a trip on the cars, from the Centre street depot. On that occasion the boy said he would call for the horse on the following Thursday.

A few days after the boy and a man came to the stable to look after the horse. The colored ostler states that the man particularly charged him to take good care of the horse. "He said if I'd take good care of the horse he'd pay me, and that made me look pretty sharp at him," said the ostler. Here Mr. Van Fleet interrupted him by saying: "That accounts for your putting the horse's tail up in red ribbons." The colored man smiled and said that he had been directed by the man to wash the horse's tail in salt and water to turn the red hairs black. After the horse had been at the stable a week a rather rough-looking express man, with a rickety wagon, came to the stable and asked for the horse, but finding the charges for keeping had not been paid went away.

It appears, from the statement of Mr. Van Fleet and the colored man, that the pretended owner of the horse visited the stable twice; once with the boy and the next time alone. During the last visit he said he would send another horse to the stable in a few days, and take this one away. He is described as a man about fifty years of age, with gray side-whiskers. There is every reason to believe that this man was Mosher. It is hardly necessary to state that the horse has not yet been called for. When Mr. Van Fleet saw a description of the horse, said to have been driven by Mosher, in the New-York papers yesterday morning, he immediately telegraphed to Superintendent Walling, of the New-York Police. That officer sent a detective yesterday to look at the horse. The detective had no doubt that he had found the animal he was in search of. It is hoped that this clue may at last lead to the discovery of the lost child.

WASHINGTON NOTES.

SENATOR ANTHONY CONVALESCENT.

Special Dispatch to the New-York Times.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 9.—Senator Anthony, who has been detained in Providence since the reassembling of Congress by an attack of inflamatory sore throat, advises his friends here that he is convalescent, and he is expected to be in his seat in the Senate next week.

CONGRESSIONAL TEMPERANCE LECTURES.

Rev. Dr. Chickering will begin his series of Congressional temperance meetings to-morrow night at Lincoln Hall, and Vice President Wilson will speak.

Dispatch to the Associated Press.

ANOTHER SOUTHERN PACIFIC RAILROAD BILL.

The bill introduced by Mr. Houghton, of California, just before the adjournment of the House yesterday, authorizes the Southern Pacific Railroad Company, of California, to change its line between Gilroy and Tehachape Pass, so as to run by way of Pajaro, Salinas Valley, and Pajaro Pass, to a point between Poso Creek and the Kern River, and there connect with the line as heretofore established. It is also proposed to empower the company to connect the main line with the branch thereof to Tehachape Pass to Los Angeles, by the construction of a railroad and telegraph line from a point on the branch road near San Bernardino, via Cajon Pass to a point at or near the boundary line between Kern and San Bernardino Counties. Two hundred feet right of way is to be granted, together with the right to take building material and all necessary grounds for stations, shops, &c., without other limit of quantity. The bill provides that there shall be no change in the quantity or location of the land grant to inure to the company as now located and withdrawn, and, finally, provides that the company be required to construct only twenty miles per annum upon the Los Angeles branch, and be allowed until November, 1885, to complete its entire road, including the main and branch lines thereof. The bill was referred to the Committee on Public Lands.

NO MEETING OF CONGRESS.

Neither House of Congress met to-day, both adjourning yesterday till Monday.

THE GOVERNMENT SPECIAL FIBRE PAPER.

The Committee on Banking and Currency have concluded, from the testimony elicited before them this morning, that all the fibre paper manufactured for the Government has been accounted for, and that no illegal issues of securities, printed upon the special paper adopted by the Government, have been made.

TREASURY BALANCES.

The following were the balances in the Treasury at the close of business to-day: Currency, $12,089,348; special deposit of legal tenders for the redemption of certificates of deposit, $42,160,000; coin, (including coin certificates, $27,043,400,) $72,009,772; outstanding legal tenders, $382,000,000.

THE REPORT OF THE RESIGNATION OF SECRETARIES FISH AND BRISTOW NOT JUSTIFIED.

The reports prevalent of the intended resignation of Secretaries Fish and Bristow are not justified by any recent expressions of these gentlemen.

THE RUSSIAN MISSION.

It is generally believed that Hon. George H. Baker will be promoted to the Russian Mission, though no such fact is officially reported.

ALABAMA.

THE CONGRESSIONAL INVESTIGATION CLOSED—SUMMARY OF THE TESTIMONY.

LIVINGSTON, Sumter County, Ala., Jan. 9.—Messrs. Albright and Buckner, of the Alabama Investigating Committee, yesterday concluded four days' investigating at this place. Many witnesses were examined. The killing of Billings and Ivey, and the whipping of the negro Doyle was proved, but there was no proof connecting those acts with political motives.

Evidence was offered to show that the York Bank riot originated in a strife between negroes respecting the distribution of Government bacon, and that attempts to quell the disturbance resulted in a combination of negroes against whites and the attack by the former, who subsequently transferred their operations to the adjacent town of Belmont, the neighborhood across the river, and into this county, where the armed demonstration was suppressed by the civil authorities without bloodshed.

The reported outrages in Choctaw were proved to have been mere inventions. There was testimony that in this country the United States authorities made arrests, seized houses, and carried away private property without warrant; that the same authorities took possession of the County Jail; that a colored Democrat was arrested without warrant, imprisoned, and subsequently discharged, without examination, and that while imprisoned the military guard threatened to shoot him if he did not furnish information which he could not give. It was also in proof that Bob Reid declared he would "carry Sumter County or ride chin-deep in blood."

In refutation of charges of intimidation of Republican voters, evidence was given that in the last election the Republican vote in this county was increased thirty-three per cent. over Grant's vote in 1872. This is sustained by the official returns.

DR. LEIGHTON ELECTED BISHOP OF FOND DU LAC.

MILWAUKEE, Wis., Jan. 9.—The Diocese of Wisconsin having been divided with the assent of the late Triennial Convention, a convention met at Fond du Lac yesterday to organize the diocese, which consists of the twenty north-eastern counties of the State. It was resolved to name it the Diocese of Fond du Lac. To-day the convention proceeded to the election of a Bishop. There were thirteen ballots. On one of these Dr. Teubroeck, of LaCrosse, Wis., had a majority of the lay votes, and on another Dr. DeKoven, of Racine College, had a majority of the clerical votes. The thirteenth ballot resulted in the unanimous election by both orders of Dr. Leighton Coleman, Rector of Trinity Church, Toledo.

THE COAL TRADE—SUSPENSION OF MINING OPERATIONS.

PHILADELPHIA, Penn., Jan. 9.—The suspension of mining operations has become almost general, while it indicates that many dealers are fully stocked to meet all demands that may be made upon them for some time to come, it demonstrates as well that others are too timid to make contracts, which from the treacherous condition of the trade may prove ruinous. Affairs in the producing regions are in a very unsettled condition, and until there is some harmony between operators and operatives we may not expect a spirited business. The action of the Philadelphia and Reading Coal Company in reducing its prices for the current month will result in a great saving to consumers, and check all movements for a rise all along the line.

THE FATHER STACK CASE DECIDED AGAINST THE PLAINTIFF.

WILLIAMSPORT, Penn., Jan. 9.—In the case of Father Stack vs. Bishop O'Hara, so long in controversy, the Master in Chancery has decided that the action of Bishop O'Hara in removing Father Stack from the Church of the Annunciation, of this city, was in full accordance with the recognized law and discipline of the Catholic Church, and that a priest is bound to accept and abide by the law of a voluntary association while a member. The case may come up again in the Lycoming County Court of Common Pleas.

PACIFIC MAIL.

YESTERDAY'S TESTIMONY BEFORE THE INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE.

MR. ABERT IS ONCE MORE ALLOWED TIME TO CONSIDER—EVIDENCE OF MR. CAPRON—HON. JOHN G. SCHUMAKER RECALLED—HIS TRANSACTIONS IN DISTRIBUTING THE COMPANY'S MONEY—HE TAKES NO VOUCHERS, AND CONVENIENTLY KEEPS NO LEDGER, NO CASH, OR CHECK-BOOK, NOR ANY OTHER AWKWARD BUSINESS RECORD—MR. RANDALL'S TESTIMONY.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 9.—The Ways and Means Committee met at 11 o'clock to resume the Pacific Mail subsidy investigation.

Mr. Charles Abert being again asked to give the names of the persons to whom he disbursed the $106,500, under direction of Richard B. Irwin, requested the committee to give him an opportunity, before responding, to go over to Baltimore and consult with Mr. Reverdy Johnson in person. He said he expected that Mr. Johnson, on a full review of the case, would advise him that his lips are not sealed, and that he could testify under the circumstances without violation of professional propriety. Besides there were relations existing between witness and the Irwin family which made him desirous not to testify unless compelled to by the House. If the pressure was brought to bear, however, he would answer fully and freely.

After some discussion as to the best means of arranging the matter, it was finally decided that unless witness answered the questions by 12 o'clock Monday, he should be reported to the House as in contempt.

The $106,500 referred to above was the amount received by Mr. Abert from Mr. Irwin, less $18,500 returned by deposit to the credit of Mr. Irwin's account.

MR. CAPRON'S EVIDENCE.

Mr. Richard J. Capron, of P. J. Capron & Co., bankers, of New-York, testified that on May 21, 1872, they received from Fant, Washington & Co., bankers, of Washington City, a check for $4,000, drawn by Richard B. Irwin, remitted with sundry other checks for their credit. Witness had no recollection as to the name of the person in whose favor the check was drawn.

HON. JOHN G. SCHUMAKER TELLS WHAT HE DID.

Hon. John G. Schumaker, being recalled, said he had now obtained permission of his client to make certain statements, which he proceeded to read from manuscript. This written statement was to the effect that witness, on May 28, 1872, received from Richard B. Irwin his check for $275,000, with instructions to have it broken up into a number of smaller checks. He went to the American Exchange Bank to get it certified. He did not meet or see the Postmaster. The latter had nothing to do with his business. He did not succeed in getting it certified, being unknown to the Teller. On the 30th of May the Brooklyn Trust Company broke up the check, $125,000 being placed to his credit, and subsequently, with the exception of about $10,000, disbursed by his checks and three checks for $50,000 each, being drawn on the Marine Bank and sent to the office of the Pacific Mail Company. On the same day Mr. Stockwell told him that the office of the company was being overrun with people, clamorous to be compensated for services they pretended to have rendered in helping to secure the increase of the subsidy. The company wanted to get rid of this crowd, and also desired to pay all persons who had honestly assisted. They, therefore, requested Mr. Schumaker to carry a check for $50,000 to Lyman Elmore, an attorney who had sufficient information to enable him to distribute it properly. Mr. Schumaker hesitated about complying with this request, and would refuse to do so if the money was to be paid to any member or officer of Congress. Being assured by Mr. Stockwell that the company had employed no such persons, and that the money was not intended for any improper purposes, Mr. Schumaker took his instructions, and in accordance with them took the check to Lyman Elmore. He went first to Elmore's offices in New-York, but learning he had gone to Washington went over there himself that night, and next day tendered it to Elmore in Washington. Mr. Elmore said he would like to have the money, and witness therefore got it cashed by Riggs & Co.; took the money to Elmore's room, and there paid it, by Elmore's direction, and in his presence, to a person introduced by Elmore as Gen. Smith. Witness had no knowledge what was afterward done with this money. He took no receipt for it; was given no direction to receive any.

Q.—Suppose Mr. Stockwell should pass away, and you have no voucher to show that you did not put this money in your own pocket, don't you think it would seem extraordinary that you neglected the ordinary business precautions? A.—Well, that's what's troubling me; that's what's the matter.

Q.—Did you feel that you were in an extraordinary position? A.—Yes.

Q.—Why? A.—Because I was being used to pay lobbyists.

Q.—Was the person to whom you paid money Gen. Morgan L. Smith? A.—I don't know. I never saw the person before, and never saw him but once afterward. All the checks, aggregating $115,000, which were drawn by Schumaker against the balance of the $275,000, were left by Schumaker with the Brooklyn Trust Company, and by it sent to the Pacific Mail Company's office, together with the three checks for $50,000 each. The instructions to Schumaker to have the $275,000 check broken up were given by Stockwell. No names were given, but only a list of the various amounts for which smaller checks were desired. In January or February, 1873, witness was sent for by Stockwell, and at his request destroyed all his checks drawn by himself which had been returned to him by the Trust Company. Witness at this time did not know that the House of Representatives had ordered an investigation of this subsidy matter. When a short time afterward he learned this he was very sorry that he had acceded to Stockwell's request, and felt that he had laid himself open to suit by the company for the recovery of this money. Don't recollect a single indorsement on his checks except his own. In under the impression that there were no names written on any of them except his own, but remembers that bank stamps were on some of them. Witness commenced to be counsel for the Pacific Steam-ship Company in 1871, when certain injunction suits were brought against the company in Brooklyn, and he came over to Washington in the Spring of 1872, at the request of the company, in order to explain to the Committee on Commerce the nature of the Challis suit, then pending against the company, statements in regard to which were being made here to its injury. Witness had no other connection with the movement for the increased subsidy; he talked with various Congressmen, from time to time, about one and another of the so-called Brooklyn suits against the company, but said nothing to any member of Congress in advocacy of the subsidy; made no contracts with any person and employed no one; he had no conference with Irwin while here, but once carried a message from him to Stockwell, to the effect that Irwin begged Stockwell to stop sending him lots of people who took money from Stockwell but did no good, and could only embarrass Irwin's efforts in behalf of the movement.

Witness in response to numerous questions, explained that he kept no books: never had a ledger; had not for years had a check-book; drew checks anywhere; kept no records on stubs, and when he wanted to know his bank balance, always had to ask the book-keeper. At the time witness undertook to convey to Elmore the $50,000 check for the company, Irwin had left for California, and the request made by Stockwell did not seem objectionable. It seemed to witness that the company wanted the money to be properly disposed of and to go through the hands of people who would not steal it; witness could not identify the person introduced to him by Elmore as Gen. Smith, further than by saying that he recollected that he was a good looking man; was rather dark; ordinary size, and with some beard.

The witness was further interrogated by Mr. Roberts and others. Mr. Dawes asked witness, as he was attorney for the Pacific Mail Steam-ship Company, how happened it that Irwin paid him. Witness said he also became attorney for Irwin in the Fall of 1871, and in addition to attending to the subsidy, he transacted other business for him in New-York. Elmore told witness the night before last, that the Smith who received the money from him was the man of that name who recently died in Jersey City—Gen. Morgan L. Smith.

Mr. Kasson asked witness whether he he had any information in connection with his services in behalf of the subsidy; that any portion of the $275,000 heretofore referred to, went, or was directed to go, to any member or officer of the Forty-second Congress? Witness replied that he had no such information to which he could swear positively, and in reply to a question of Mr. Kellogg the witness said that he had no information that any clerk or other employe of the House received money. The witness was further asked whether he had knowledge that any other moneys of the company other than the $275,000 went to or were intended to go to any member or officer of the Forty-second Congress. Witness replied that he had no such knowledge.

The examination of this witness here closed.

MR. RANDALL NAMES A MEMBER WHO WAS OFFERED ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR HIS VOTE.

Representative Randall, of Pennsylvania, was then sworn. As this investigation originated with Mr. Randall, who offered the resolution in the House for the purpose, he was asked as to his knowledge of any improper means being used to influence the passage of the subsidy, when he replied that, from conversations, he believed a member of Congress was approached directly and offered a consideration to vote for the subsidy. The member was Mr. John B. Storm, of Pennsylvania, who was offered $1,000 for his vote. He had this information in two ways—one from Mr. George W. Morgan, and the other from Mr. Storm himself. It was due to Mr. Storm to say that he never indicated any purpose to vote for the subsidy, nor did he vote for the bill. Mr. Storm did not tell him from whom the proffer came, but related the fact as if to strengthen his (Mr. Randall's) energy in opposition to the bill.

The committee then adjourned till 10:30 on Monday morning.

HIS PRISON QUARTERS.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 9.—Richard B. Irwin, the recusant witness in the Pacific Mail inquiry, in custody of Sergeant at Arms Ordway, and accompanied by his (Irwin's) father-in-law, Ex. Martin, his private secretary, Mr. Senter, his attorney, Mr. Chapman, and Mr. Bishop, the latter detailed by Mr. Ordway from the Capitol police to take charge of the prisoner during his incarceration, arrived at the District Jail this afternoon, and were hospitably received by Warden Crocker, and conducted to the quarters prepared for the prisoner. The room is in the south-west corner of the building, and has been used as the Warden's office for some years. It is about 14 feet square, and has but one window, on the west side. A neat green and yellow carpet has been placed on the floor, as also a rug. There is a stove on the east side. In the south-east corner is a comfortable double bed, and in the centre of the room a walnut writing-table, with revolving chair. On the north side is a bureau, with a glass, and about the room are four cane-seat chairs and a rocking chair. The room has a comfortable and cheery look, and were it not for the iron bars across the windows the occupant would have nothing about him to indicate that he was in a prison save the presence of the guard. Mr. Irwin appears to be in good health and spirits. After a few minutes' conversation all left with the exception of Mr. Martin and the prisoner's attorney, who remained, as also did his keeper. Mr. Russ, one of the deputies, remarked to Col. Ordway that their hotel had the name of being a temperance hotel, and he hoped the reputation would be kept up. Mr. Ordway replied that he believed Mr. Irwin's physician had prescribed wine for him, he requiring something to strengthen him, being quite weak. A writ of habeas corpus was granted this afternoon, returnable on Monday next, to enable Irwin to show cause why he should not be held in custody in the jail.

THE NEW TAMMANY GENERAL COMMITTEE.

The Temporary Committee on Organization appointed at the recent meeting of the newly-elected delegates to the Tammany General Committee for 1875, met yesterday at Tammany Hall, John Kelly in the chair. Candidates for seats in the General Committee from the First, Second, Third and Seventh Assembly Districts appeared to contest the election of delegates on the "regular" tickets, as they are called, and a number of long statements were presented and speeches made by representatives of both sides. In the First District the "regular" ticket is headed by Nicholas Muller and the opposition by James Healey—William H. Burns and James A. Wilson being chiefly interested in its success. In the Second District County Clerk Walsh heads the "regular" ticket, and Thomas Wild and Felix Murphy are its principal opponents, and in the Third District the "regular" ticket, headed by "Jimmy" Hayes, is contested by James Slavin and others. The contestants in the First, Second, and Third Districts presented a considerable amount of testimony concerning frauds practiced at the primary elections, and evidence in rebuttal of their statements was also received. The committee reserved its decision, and will hear contestants from the Seventh Assembly and other districts to-morrow afternoon. There is but little doubt that the "regular" ticket, headed by Seth C. Douglas, in the Eighth Assembly District will be declared elected, as George A. Steud, George Hall, Louis Wagenbuch, and a number of persons whose names appear on the "irregular" ticket, headed by Karl Klein, assert that their names were used in the election without their knowledge or consent. It was very apparent yesterday that whether the contestants were right or wrong, they would not be admitted to seats in the General Committee unless they were acceptable to the leaders of the party, and the majority of these recognizing that fact, are ready to bow to what is inevitable.

The nobbiest collar you can wear is the Warwick. It is the style in with this season. Ask for it at the furnishing stores.—*Exchange.*

For cleansing and beautifying the skin, and for curing colds and rheumatism, the Russian Baths, No. 25 East Fourth street, are unequaled.—*Advertisement.*

Dew of The Alps—WHEN THE JUDGES OF the Paris International Exhibition awarded a premium to this preparation as the finest stomachic in the world, they only confirmed a fact known to every swiss mountaineer from the days of William Tell to the date of the award. The Alpine Herb to which the preparation owes its marvelous vital zing and renovating properties was discovered in the Canton of Glarus more than four centuries ago, and there is no other vegetable product on the face of the globe which possesses the same specific virtues. From this herb the "DEW OF THE ALPS" derives its delicious aromatic flavor as well as its anti-dyspeptic, nerve-strengthening, and regulating virtues. For sale by all druggists and grocers.

Kiss me, darling, for your breath is
Just as sweet as new-mown hay;
Kiss me, darling, for your teeth are
Free from tartar and decay;
Kiss me, darling, for you won't
Forget me or your SOZODONT.

In Croup and Acute Laryngitis, Pneumonia, I have used "GILES' LINIMENT AMMONIA" and "LIQUOR OF AMMONIA" with marked and decided benefit.
ROBERT S. NEWTON, M. D.,
Depot, No. 451 6th av. Sold by all druggists; 50 cents and $1 a bottle.

Dunville's Old Irish Whisky is recommended by the medical profession as superior to French Brandy. In casks or cases. United States Branch, 51 Broad st.

Remember Wistar's Balsam of Wild Cherry when you require a remedy for a cough or cold.

Camphorine is a Cheap Luxury to the Suffering; 25 cents will purchase you a bottle of it.
WILSON DE ENDORF.

Wm. Everdell's Sons, No. 104 Fulton st. Established 1815. Printers. No branch offices.

Lundborg's Perfumes are like Natural flowers and bouquets.

MARRIED.

NACK—WALLING.—On Monday, Jan. 4, 1875, by Rev. Talbot W. Chambers, JAMES T. NACK to Miss JENNIE WALLING, all of this City.

DIED.

AITKIN.—On Wednesday evening, Jan. 6, HELEN E., wife of James Aitkin.

Relatives and friends of the family are invited to attend the funeral on Sunday, 10th inst., at 2 o'clock, from No. 464 West 23d st.

ALTHAUSE.—At Seaford, Long Island, on Friday morning, Jan. 8, of scarlet fever, WILLIAM H., eldest son of William H. and Sarah Ann Althause, aged 4 years, 8 months, and 7 days.

BLISS.—In Brooklyn, Jan. 7, 1875, at 1 o'clock P. M., B. FRANK BLISS, in the 30th year of his age.

His relatives and friends are invited to attend his funeral from his late residence, No. 207 Cumberland st., on Sunday next, at 2 o'clock P. M.

CAYS.—At Travisville, Staten Island, Jan. 6, Miss FRANCES CAYS, late of Princess Anne County, Va., aged 84 years.

☞ Norfolk, Va., papers please copy.

CHRISTIE.—On Saturday, Jan. 9, HENRY H. CHRISTIE, eldest son of William H. and Christiana Christie.

Relatives and friends of the family are invited to attend the funeral on Monday evening at 7 o'clock, from Thirteenth street Church, (Rev. Dr. Burchard's.)

CROOK.—On Jan. 9, GEORGIANNA LOUISA, only child of J. D. Kurtz and Lou Hamilton Crook, aged 3 years and 9 months.

Friends and acquaintances of the family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral services, at No. 130 East 126th st., on Monday, at 4:30 P. M.

GORDON.—On Friday, Jan. 8, 1875, ROBERT MONTFORT, eldest son of R. W. and the late Kate E. Gordon, in the 6th year of his age.

Funeral services will be held at St. Paul's Memorial Church, Staten Island, on Sunday, the 10th inst., at 3 P. M.

GIBSON.—On Saturday, Jan. 9, DAVID GIBSON, in the 42d year of his age.

Relatives and friends of the family are invited to attend the funeral from his late residence, No. 319 West 45th st., on Tuesday, the 12th inst., at 1 o'clock.

HODGKINSON.—On Jan. 8, EDMUND W. HODGKINSON, at his late residence, No. 161 Charles st., in the 35th year of his age.

The remains will be taken to St. James, Long Island, for interment, on the 9:30 train, from Hunter's Point. Friends and relatives are respectfully invited to attend.

KARN.—Friday evening, Jan. 8, 1875, MARY L. KARN, beloved daughter by adoption of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Hawk, aged 21 years.

Funeral from their residence, No. 5 East 48th st., New-York, Tuesday morning, Jan. 12, at 11 o'clock.

KER.—In New-York City, Friday, Jan. 8, 1875, Miss JANE LEE, daughter of the late Robert P. Lee, Esq., of Yorktown, Westchester County, N. Y.

Friends and relatives are respectfully invited to attend her funeral on Monday at 1 o'clock, from the church at Yorktown. Carriages will be in waiting at the Peekskill station on the arrival of the

NINEVEH.

ITS PAST GLORY AND PRESENT DESOLATION.

THE RISE AND FALL OF THE ASSYRIAN EMPIRE—ITS RECORD IN SACRED AND PROFANE HISTORY—KINGS OF NINEVEH—WARS WITH THE JEWS—FINAL DESTRUCTION.

"Now the word of the Lord came unto Jonah, saying, arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and cry against it, for their wickedness is come up before me. * * * Now Nineveh was an exceeding great city, of three days' journey." In this command to the prophet we have the earliest Scriptural reference, in point of date, to the City of Nineveh after the mention of its foundation by Nimrod. Jonah prophesied in the reign of King Jeroboam the Second, King of Israel; and, though the date cannot be exactly set, it was probably between the years 860 B. C. and 700 B. C. when the command was given him to denounce the Assyrian capital, and in its streets to foretell its impending destruction. It was then rapidly reaching the height of its pride and magnificence, and the terror of the prophet on receiving the command to testify against it, and his flying in the opposite direction to Jaffa, may fairly be interpreted as indicative of the awe and fear with which it was regarded by the Jewish nation. But the command being again repeated, "Jonah arose, and went unto Nineveh, * * * and began to enter into the city a day's journey, and he cried, and said, Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown." The repentance of the people turned aside the Divine vengeance for the time and the city was spared. It was to reach a greater height of pride and glory, to extend still wider its dominion, before the river which flowed by its walls should rise and throw them down before the besieging armies; but the day came at last. "The gates of the river shall be opened," cries the prophet Nahum, "and the palaces shall dissolve away." That day came about two centuries after Jonah had called its inhabitants to repentance. The city was taken, sacked, and destroyed; and when the Ten Thousand marched by the Tigris on their memorable retreat two centuries later, the city was empty and void, its walls were crumbling to ruin, and they pointed it out to Xenophon as the ruined City of Mespila. The Assyrian Empire had run its course; the capital had lost even its name.

Of the date of its origin nothing certain has yet been determined, though future discoveries may do something to clear up the darkness in which it is now obscured. Theologians say that it received its name from Asshur, the second son of Shem: while the city was founded by Nimrod, 120 years after the Deluge. It is rather singular that one of the latest, as it is one of the most interesting of the tablets found in Nineveh, gives us a remarkably full and graphic account of the flood and the building of the ark. The record is written in the first first person, as if by Noah himself; and agrees in nearly all respects with the Biblical account. That Kings reigned in Assyria twelve centuries before Christ we have the Assyrian records themselves to prove. From these records, necessarily fragmentary and incomplete as they are, a chronological table has been compiled of the various Kings who reigned from about 1250 B. C. to 690 B. C. Among these we have Pul, or Tiglath-Pileser, Sargon, Sennacherib, Esar-haddon, and Sardanapalus, or Saracus. The last is supposed to be that King who, when the combined armies of the Medes and Babylonians stormed the capital, in B. C. 606, made of his palace, his treasures, and his wives one great funeral pile. That the Empire was destroyed about that date, there is scarcely any doubt; and as by two Egyptian tablets of the fifteenth century B. C., it is found that Assyria and Nineveh then existed, it is safe to assume that the Empire lasted at least nine hundred years. After the sacking of the city by the victorious armies of Media, Nineveh was almost unknown and forgotten; though the largest of the great mounds, in which the palace of Sennacherib was buried, was used by more than one people as the site of a castle, if not a town. Silver coins of Maximus and Trajan have been found here, which were struck on the spot; and the Persians held the place for many years. But, in the end, all men deserted it; it became an utter desolation; and Nineveh was one of the great cities of Scripture which our early text-books used to tell us had perished from the face of the earth. Even its site became a matter of conjecture.

More than two centuries ago an English traveler, Sir Anthony Shirley, visited the spot. In his book of *Travels in Persia*, he writes: "Niniue (that which God Himself calleth that Great Citie) hath not one stone standing which may give memorie of the being of a towne. One English mile from it is a place called Mosul, a small thing, rather to be a witnesse of the other's mightinesse and of God's iudgment, than of any fashion of magnificence in itselfe." Forty years or so ago a countryman of that traveler, who held the place of English Consul at this little town, set about exploring the great mound of Koyunjik, on the opposite bank of the Tigris, believing that he might possibly find there some remains of the once great Assyrian city. His discoveries have identified the name of Layard with Nineveh for all time. He brought the buried city to light, after thirty centuries of the darkness of the grave; and since that time scarcely a year has passed without some addition being made to our knowledge of a nation of which before we had only the scanty records given in sacred history.

Very little was known of the Assyrians till, in pushing their conquests westward, they came in contact with the Jews. Divided, as that nation then was, into the independent kingdoms of Israel and Judea, no effectual stand could be made against so powerful and united a nation as the Assyrians. Their fame had preceded their arms, because the date at which Jonah was sent preceded that at which Pul is mentioned as having come up against Menahem, King of Israel, who paid tribute of a thousand talents of silver and secured the support of the monarch "to confirm the kingdom in his hand." After this, forty or fifty years, came Tiglath-Pileser, in the reign of Pekah, who spoiled the towns of Samaria and carried off the people captives to Assyria. After rwards he assists Ahaz against Pekah and the King of Syria. Next we have Shalmanaeser exacting tribute of Hosea, King of Israel, who sends secretly to Egypt for assistance, and Shalmaneser discovering this, takes Hosea prisoner and keeps him in confinement. Samaria is again besieged, and after a three years' resistance is taken and the people carried into captivity. It is against this dependence on the King of Egypt for assistance that Isaiah denounces, calling on Israel to depend not on Kings, but on the true God. Up to this time it was the Kingdom of Israel, or Samaria, which had suffered from the power of the Assyrian Kings, and paid tribute to them. The Kingdom of Judah appears to have escaped, and even to have received assistance in the war against its rival; but after the death of Shalmanesar, Sennacherib, who succeeded him, came up against that Kingdom, probably because tribute had been refused him by its King, Hezekiah. This appears to have been about B. C. 678. It is more than probable that both Israel and Judea had paid tribute to the Assyrian Kings, or at least done homage to them, long anterior to any mention of the fact in Scripture—Judea being the more remote being under the lighter burden. But Sennacherib was a conqueror who pushed his attacks much further than his predecessors, and it was probably the refusal of Hezekiah to pay an increased tribute which provoked him to attack his country. He came up against Judea, and his expedition, recorded with minuteness in the Scriptures, happens to be recorded with similar exactitude by the Assyrian King on the walls of his palace. He took all the fenced towns of Judea, according to the Hebrew chronicles. On the Assyrian palace we have this campaign illustrated in the most spirited style of the native artists. All the operations of a siege are depicted with the utmost minuteness. Battering rams are being employed to make breaches in the walls, from which the besieged are defending themselves with the greatest determination. Some of the defenders are using their bows and arrows, while others throw burning brands on the engines beneath to set fire to them. The besiegers are rolling up machines from which their archers can shoot on the same level as the men on the walls. One part of the town is taken. A procession of captives is seen issuing from a gate. In the foreground the captured are seen impaled on stakes, while the soldiers are bearing off the heads of the slain. The victory was in all cases on the side of the Assyrians, and Hezekiah, to save Jerusalem, sent messengers to Sennacherib offering submission and an indemnity. He was ordered to pay 300 talents of silver and thirty of gold. So exactly do the Assyrian and Hebrew accounts of this expedition agree, that we find this very sum set down in the Assyrian annals as the indemnity which Sennacherib exacted. Beyond this point, however, there is nothing written by the Assyrian King. The reason is obvious. After he had subdued Judea, he returned to Nineveh; and Hezekiah appears to have sent secretly to Egypt for assistance, as Hosea had done before him. Though nothing is said of this in the Bible, such must be inferred from what followed. Sennacherib, aware of what had been done, (he probably had spies at Jerusalem,) immediately sent another army under three leaders against Hezekiah. (Second Kings, xviii., 17.) In the conference which took place outside the gate between these captains and the Jewish messengers, Rab-Shakeh says: "Speak ye now to Hezekiah: Thus saith the great King of Assyria, 'What confidence is this wherein thou trustest?' * * * 'Behold thou trustest upon the staff of this bruised reed, even upon Egypt;" and he speaks with scorn of the dependence that can be placed on Pharaoh. The Jewish messengers beg him to speak in the Syrian language, that the multitude on the wall may not understand him; but the Assyrian scornfully replies that he has been sent to speak to the men upon the wall, and to threaten them with famine and destruction. The terror and grief of Hezekiah when his messengers returned to him is graphically depicted. He seeks the prophet Isaiah, who returns him the answer as set forth in chapter xix., 20-34. The reference to the "remnant that is escaped of the house of Judah," which "shall yet again take root downward, and bear fruit upward," is a significant indication of the terrible destruction which had been made of the nation in the first campaign. Nevertheless, the Lord will have pity on this remnant, and the "Assyrian shall not come into this city, nor shoot an arrow there, nor come before it with shield, nor cast a bank against it." "And it came to pass that night that the angel of the Lord went out, and smote in the camp of the Assyrians a hundred four score and five thousand." It should be remarked here that in the language of the East, a plague or pestilence, a destroying wind, or any other great natural destructive agent, is generally spoken of as the angel of the Lord. It is, therefore, quite in accordance with the meaning of the sacred scribe, to interpret this passage as meaning a sudden pestilence, or malarial fever, such as might arise from the marshy and swamp ground near which the Assyrians were encamped. As before stated, nothing of this campaign and its awful termination is recorded on the walls of Sennacherib's buried palace. Naturally he would not desire to put it on record. He retreated from before Jerusalem, returned to Nineveh, and was afterward assassinated in the temple of his god by his two eldest sons. After the murder they fled, and Esar-Haddon, his youngest son, ascended the throne. The complete destruction of Israel which Isaiah foretold came upon the nation under this king. He carried off the remnant into Babylon, which he had annexed to Assyria, and the Jews for the time ceased to be a nation. United, they might have withstood the power of the Assyrian Empire, but, divided into the two rival kingdoms of Judea and Israel, always jealous, and frequently at war with each other, they fell before its consolidated strength.

The destruction of Nineveh was foretold by the prophet Nahum, who prophesied between the years 720 and 698 B. C. When he foretold its fall, it is clear it had attained the height of its pride and power, and was hastening to inevitable decline, steeped in corruption and blood. "Woe to the bloody city," he cries, "it is all full of lies and robbery; the prey departeth not." The sculptures which recorded the Assyrian campaigns, no less than the records written on them, show the bloodthirstiness and cruelty of the nation. Captives are depicted being flayed alive, having their tongues torn out, their brains beaten out with mallets, impaled, their eyes thrust with spears, and other abominable cruelties. One of the inscriptions reads: "Their men, young and old, I (Asshur-nasir-pal) took prisoners. Of some I cut off the feet and hands; of others I cut off the noses, ears, and lips; of the young men's ears I made a heap; of the old men's heads I built a tower; I exposed their heads as a trophy in front of their city. The male children and the female children I burned in the flames." In the tone of this record there is simply triumph expressed; it does not appear to have occurred to the royal conqueror that he did anything in committing these revolting cruelties but express the complete and utter triumph which he obtained over his enemies. The Jewish records seem cruel enough sometimes; but of the God of the Hebrews, mercy and loving kindness were attributes. Among the Assyrians the words seem unknown. They themselves found no mercy when the day of their destruction came. In that time when the river rose and the walls of the city were overthrown, the combined Medean and Babylonian army entered and utterly spoiled the city. The terror and confusion attending that entry were foretold. "The chariots shall rage in the streets; they shall jostle one another in the broad ways; they shall seem like torches; they shall run like the lightnings. * * * They shall make haste to the wall, and the defense shall be prepared. * * * Stand, stand, shall they cry; but none shall look back; * * * the horseman lifteth up both the bright sword and the glittering spear, and there is a multitude of slain; * * * there is no end of their corpses; they stumble upon their corpses. * * * The fire shall devour thy bars. * * * She is empty and void and waste." When Layard drove his tunnels into the mound which covered the gate, the literal fulfillment of the prophecy was seen. Corpses there were none; but the charred remnants of the gateway which the fire had devoured were thrown up at every stroke; and Nineveh is empty and void and waste to this day. The once powerful city has become a place for pools of water. for a habitation of beasts—an utter desolation.

POTATOES FROM IRELAND.

The British park Countess of Dufferin has just brought to Baltimore 1,000 barrels of potatoes from Londonderry, Ireland. They are of the "brown rock" and "sherry blue" varieties. The shipment was made on Irish account, and the object is to introduce them as seed potatoes, as well as for table use. Sending potatoes here is very much like taking coals to New-Castle, but there are those who think the best Irish potatoes should come from

DIVIDENDS.

40TH DIVIDEND.

CLINTON

FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY,
OFFICE, NO. 156 BROADWAY.

A Semi-annual Dividend of TEN (10) PER CENT. has been declared, payable on demand.
New-York, Jan. 7, 1875.

G. T. PATTERSON, Jr.,
Secretary.

OFFICE OF
THE
IMPORTERS' AND TRADERS'
INSURANCE COMPANY,
NO. 195 BROADWAY, NEW-YORK,
JAN. 5, 1875.

The Board of Directors have this day declared a Semi-Annual Dividend of SIX (6) PER CENT., payable on demand.

DANIEL A. SMITH, Secretary.

WILLIAMSBURG CITY
FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO OUR PATRONS!

BROOKLYN, Jan. 8, 1875.

The Board of Directors have this day declared a Semi-annual Dividend of TEN PER CENT., payable on demand.

THE GROSS ASSETS OF THIS COMPANY ARE $742,275 64.

After paying the above Dividend, the stock is worth over Two Hundred per Cent. on the books of the company.

EDMUND DRIGGS, President.

N. W. MESEROLE, Secretary.

KNICKERBOCKER FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF NEW-YORK, (ESTABLISHED 1787.)
OFFICE No. 64 WALL ST., NEW-YORK, Jan. 7, 1875.

AT A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS held this day, the usual Semi-annual Dividend of Five per Cent. was declared. Also, an Extra Dividend of Five per Cent.; both payable on and after Jan. 15, 1875. The transfer books will be closed from this date until the 15th inst.

JOSEPH L. TOWNSEND, Secretary.

IRVING INSURANCE COMPANY, No. 157 BROADWAY,
NEW-YORK, Jan. 5, 1875.

A SPECIAL DIVIDEND OF THREE PER CENT., and a Semi-annual Dividend of Five per Cent. are payable on demand.

JAMES M. WILSON, Secretary.

STRAITSVILLE CANNEL COAL COMPANY OF NEW-YORK.

No. 115 Broadway, Room No. 7.

The coupons of the mortgage bonds of this Company, due Jan. 15, will be paid on and after that day, at the Murray Hill Bank.

WM. A. DARLING,
Treasurer.

OFFICE OF WELLS, FARGO, & CO.,
No. 65 BROADWAY, NEW-YORK, Dec. 12, 1874.

THE REGULAR SEMI-ANNUAL DIVIDEND of FOUR PER CENT., has been declared by the Directors of this Company, payable Jan. 15, 1875, at our office as above.

The transfer books will be closed Jan. 4, at 2 P. M., and reopened Jan. 16.

THEO. F. WOOD, Assistant Secretary.

OFFICE OF MARYLAND COAL COMPANY OF ALLEGANY COUNTY, MD.,
Nos. 15 AND 17 TRINITY BUILDING,
NEW-YORK, Jan. 4, 1875.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAVE THIS DAY declared a Dividend of One Dollar and a Half per share, payable to stockholders on and after Feb. 1. Transfer-books will be closed 20th inst. and reopened Feb. 4.

S. T. ROSS, Treasurer.

DIVIDEND.

FIREMAN'S TRUST INSURANCE COMPANY OF BROOKLYN,
No. 60 WALL ST., NEW-YORK,
NEW-YORK, Jan. 4, 1875.

The Board of Directors of this company have this day declared a semi-annual dividend of Six (6) per Cent., payable on demand.

O. D. MILDEBERGER, Secretary.

THE LAKE SHORE AND MICHIGAN SOUTHERN RAILWAY CO., TREASURER'S OFFICE,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 29, 1874.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THIS Company have this day declared a Dividend of Three and One-quarter per Cent. upon its capital stock, payable on the 1st day of February next., at the Union Trust Company of New-York.

The transfer books will be closed at the close of business on Saturday, the 9th day of January next, and be reopened on the morning of Tuesday, the 2d day of Febuary next.

E. D. WORCESTER, Treasurer.

TO HOLDERS OF OHIO STATE STOCKS.—Notice is hereby given that the interest due Jan. 1, 1875, on the Funded Debt of the State of Ohio, will be paid at the American Exchange National Bank of New-York City, from the 1st to the 10th proximo, and thereafter at our office in this City.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, Dec. 15, 1874.

JAMES WILLIAMS, Auditor of State;
A. T. WIKOFF, Secretary of State;
JOHN LITTLE, Attorney General;
Commissioners of the Sinking Fund.

OFFICE CENTRAL RAILROAD COMPANY OF NEW-JERSEY, No. 119 LIBERTY ST.,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 14, 1874.

THE DIRECTORS HAVE THIS DAY DECLARED the usual quarterly Dividend of Two and a Half per Cent., payable at the office of the Company, on and after next, at this office. The transfer-books will be closed from Thursday the 31st inst. to Saturday, the 23d proximo.

SAMUEL KNOX, Secretary.

SIXTY-SEVENTH DIVIDEND.

OFFICE OF THE NEW-YORK EQUITABLE INSURANCE COMPANY, No. 58 WALL ST.,
NEW-YORK, Jan. 6, 1875.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAVE THIS day declared a Semi-annual Dividend of Ten per Cent., payable on and after the 9th inst.

JOHN MILLER, Secretary.

OFFICE CITIZENS' INSURANCE COMPANY,
No. 156 BROADWAY, NEW-YORK, Jan. 6, 1875.

A DIVIDEND OF TEN PER CENT., ON THE capital stock is payable on demand; also an interest dividend of THREE AND A HALF PER CENT. on the reserved fund.

E. A. WALTON, Secretary.

THIRTY-NINTH DIVIDEND.

OFFICE OF THE MERCANTILE FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY,
No. 166 BROADWAY,
NEW-YORK, Jan. 2, 1875.

The Board of Directors have this day declared a semi-annual dividend of Five (5) per Cent., payable on and after Jan. 4, 1875.

C. W. PARMELEE, Secretary.

THIRTY-FOURTH DIVIDEND.

OFFICE OF RELIEF FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY,
No. 149 BROADWAY, CORNER OF LIBERTY STREET,
Jan. 6, 1875.

A semi-annual dividend of FIVE (5) per Cent. has this day been declared, payable on demand.

W. E. CRARY, Secretary.

UNION TRUST COMPANY OF NEW-YORK,
No. 73 BROADWAY, CORNER OF RECTOR ST.,
NEW-YORK, Jan. 7, 1875.

AT A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF Trustees of the Union Trust Company of New-York, held this day, a dividend of Five per Cent. upon the capital stock, from the net earnings of the last six months, was declared, payable on demand.

JAS. H. OGILVIE, Secretary.

OFFICE OF THE GERMAN-AMERICAN INSURANCE COMPANY, No. 179 BROADWAY,
NEW-YORK, Jan. 7, 1875.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAVE THIS DAY declared a dividend of Five per Cent. on the capital stock, payable on demand.

JAMES A. SILVEY, Secretary.

OFFICE OF THE RAILWAY ADVERTISING CO.,
No. 63 BROADWAY, NEW-YORK, Jan. 5, 1875.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE RAILWAY ADVERTISING COMPANY have declared a Quarterly Dividend of Five per Cent. on the capital stock of the company, payable at the office of the company on and after Jan. 12, 1875. The transfer books will be closed on Jan. 10, and reopened on Jan. 16.

DAVIS JOHNSON, Treasurer.

THE NATIONAL PARK BANK,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 18, 1874.

THE DIRECTORS OF THIS BANK HAVE declared a Semi-annual Dividend of SIX PER CENT. payable Jan. 2, 1875.

The transfer books will remain closed until that date.

J. L. WORTH, Cashier.

COMMERCE FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, OF NEW-YORK,
OFFICE, No. 104 BROADWAY,
NEW-YORK, Jan. 2, 1875.

TWENTY-FIFTH DIVIDEND.—A SEMI-ANnual dividend of FIVE per cent. has this day been declared, payable on and after MONDAY, the 11th inst.

WM. E. HOXIE, Secretary.

TRADESMEN'S FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY,
No. 168 BROADWAY,
NEW-YORK, Jan. 5, 1875.

TWENTY-EIGHTH DIVIDEND.—THE BOARD of Directors have this day declared a Semi-annual Dividend of Ten per Cent., payable on and after the 9th inst.

T. Y. BROWN, Secretary.

FORTY-FIFTH DIVIDEND.

OFFICE PACIFIC FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY,
No. 470 BROADWAY, Jan. 4, 1875.

The Board of Directors have this day declared the usual Semi-annual Dividend of Ten per Cent., payable on demand.

WM. A. BUTLER,
Secretary.

THIRTY-SEVENTH DIVIDEND.

OFFICE PARK FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY,
No. 170 BROADWAY, NEW-YORK, Jan. 2, 1875.

CASH CAPITAL.....$200,000 00
NET ASSETS, JAN. 1, 1875.....407,013 39

A semi-annual dividend of Ten (10) per Cent. is payable on demand.

WM. JAFFRAY, President.

WM. VALENTINE, Secretary.

LONG ISLAND INSURANCE COMPANY,
No. 203 MONTAGUE ST.,
BROOKLYN, Jan. 7, 1875.

A SEMI-ANNUAL DIVIDEND OF EIGHT PER Cent. has been declared, payable on demand.

WM. W. HENSHAW, Secretary.

FIRE INSURANCE STOCKS BOUGHT AND sold by E. S. BAILEY, No. 65 Wall st.

STORES, &C., TO LET.

OFFICES TO LET
IN
TIMES BUILDING.

SPLENDID OFFICES TO LET IN THE FIRE-PROOF TIMES BUILDING.

Apply at TIMES COUNTING-ROOM.

TO LEASE.—ALL THE LOFTS OF THE SIX-STORY store No. 26 Beekman st., through 185 feet to Spruce st.; fine light; near new Post Office; power can be had.

JAMES PRICE,
No. 200 Hudson st.

DOUBLE AND SINGLE LOFTS TO LET ON Vesey, Barclay, and Leonard sts., Broadway block. Inquire of J. & J. W. MILLS, No. 20 Vesey st., room No. 6.

FINANCIAL.

7, 8, AND 10 PER CENT.
CHOICE
CITY & STATE BONDS,
INTEREST PROMPTLY PAID IN NEW-YORK.
ALSO, OTHER FIRST-CLASS SECURITIES PAYING 10 TO 15 PER CENT.
FOR SALE BELOW PAR, BY
ALBERT H. NICOLAY & CO.,
STOCK BROKERS AND AUCTIONEERS,
NO. 43 PINE ST., N. Y.

N. B.—Investment Securities our specialty 23 years.

REPORT OF THE CONDITION OF THE NATIONAL BANK OF COMMERCE IN NEW-YORK at the close of business on the 31st day of December, 1874.

RESOURCES.

Loans and discounts	$13,170,188 93
U. S. bonds to secure circulation	4,000 000 00
United States bonds to secure deposits	250,000 00
United States bonds on hand	2,850,000 00
Other stocks, bonds, and mortgages	9.000 00
Due from other national banks	533,668 25
Due from State banks and bankers	103,328 40
Real estate, banking-house	500,000 00
Premiums paid	287.346 88
Checks and other cash items	78,924 45
Exchanges for clearing-house	4,367,149 07
Bills of other national banks	187,115 00
Fractional currency (including nickels)	1,913 73
Specie (including gold Treasury notes)	794,592 00
Legal-tender notes	505,325 00
United States certificates of deposit for legal tenders	2,995,000 00
Redemption fund with United States Treasurer (five per cent.)	167,400 00
	$30,770,951 73

LIABILITIES.

Capital stock paid in	$10,000,000 00
Surplus fund	3,250,000 00
Other undivided profits	402,350 56
National bank notes outstanding	2,618,675 00
Dividends unpaid	14,287 00
Individual deposits	8,660,158 16
Certified checks	2,354,521 01
United States deposits	846,728 58
Due to other national banks	1,391,434 35
Due to State banks and bankers	1,732,847 07
	$30,770,951 73

I, HENRY F. VAIL, Cashier of the National Bank of Commerce in New-York, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

H. F. VAIL, Cashier.

State of New-York, City and County of New-York, ss.—Sworn to and subscribed before me this 9th day of January, 1875.

GEORGE H. CAREY, Notary Public
City and County of New-York.

Correct attest:
A. A. LOW,
GEORGE CABOT WARD,
J. J. ASTOR,
Directors.

UNION TRUST COMPANY OF NEW-YORK,
No. 73 BROADWAY, CORNER RECTOR ST.,
NEW-YORK, Jan. 6, 1875.

NOTICE.—HOLDERS OF FIRST MORTGAGE Bonds of the ROCKFORD, ROCK ISLAND AND ST. LOUIS RAILROAD COMPANY are notified that the UNION TRUST COMPANY OF NEW-YORK, as Trustee, is prepared to receive the bonds and cause the same to be proved in the foreclosure proceedings now pending, and to receive and account for the proportion of proceeds of foreclosure that may belong to said bonds. It is understood that owners are to bear all risks of custody and transportation and expenses incurred in forwarding bonds.

Union Trust Company of New-York, Trustee.
By EDWARD KING, President.

OFFICE OF PENNSYLVANIA COMPANY,
PITTSBURG, PENN., Dec. 5, 1874.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO THE HOLDers of the Third Mortgage Bonds of the Cleveland and Pittsburg Railroad Company maturing May 1, 1875, that the Pennsylvania Company, in charge of the Cleveland and Pittsburg Railroad, under its lease to the "Pennsylvania Railroad Company," are prepared to pay, the Farmers' Loan and Trust Company, in the City of New-York, all of the said bonds on and after DEC. 15, 1874, at par and interest to the date of presentation, at any time before maturity.

THOMAS A. SCOTT, President.

CAUTION.—THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED temporary notes, drafts, and checks having been stolen, the public are hereby warned against negotiating them, as payment has been stopped: C. H. Cook, note Oct. 19, 1874, four months, indorsed F. A. Day and W. M. Conger, payable at No. 37 Maiden lane, New-York, $250; C. H. Cook, note Oct. 22, 1874, four months, indorsed F. A. Day and W. M. Conger, payable at No. 37 Maiden lane, New-York, $250; J. H. Baldwin, note Oct. 10, 1874, four months, indorsed A. D. Baldwin and W. M. Conger, importers' and Traders' Bank, New-York, $460 20.

OFFICE OF THE EAGLE FIRE COMPANY OF NEW-YORK,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 30, 1874.

THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS OF this Company, and for inspectors, will be held at the Company's Office, No. 71 Wall st., on TUESDAY, Jan. 12, 1875, commencing at 12 o'clock M. and closing at 1 o'clock P. M.

A. J. CLINTON, Secretary.

MERCHANTS' NATIONAL BANK,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 9, 1874.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE STOCKholders of this bank for the election of eleven Directors to serve the ensuing year, will be held at the banking-house, Tuesday, 12th January, 1875. Polls open from 12 M. to 1 P. M. By order of the Board.

C. V. BANTA, Cashier.

AN ELECTION OF FIVE TRUSTEES OF THE NEW-YORK BALANCE DOCK COMPANY will be held at the office of the President of the company, No. 12 Wall st., in the City of New-York, between the hours of 12 o'clock M. and 1 o'clock P. M. on the second WEDNESDAY of January proximo.

JAMES B. NICHOLSON, Secretary.

Dated NEW-YORK, Dec. 31, 1874.

MECHANICS' AND TRADERS' BANK,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 23, 1874.

AN ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS OF THIS institution for the ensuing year, and for three inspectors for the next ensuing election, will be held at the banking-house on WEDNESDAY, Jan. 13, 1875. Poll open from 2 to 3 o'clock.

GEO. W. YOULE, Cashier.

THE MARKET NATIONAL BANK,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 22, 1874.

THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS for the ensuing year will be held at the banking-house on TUESDAY, Jan. 12, 1875, between the hours of 12 M. and 1 P. M.

A. GILBERT, Cashier.

NATIONAL BUTCHERS' AND DROVERS' BANK,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 11, 1874.

THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS of this bank will be held at the banking house, No. 124 Bowery, on TUESDAY, Jan. 12, 1875, between the hours of 12 M. and 1 P. M.

G. G. BRINCKERHOFF, Cashier.

METROPOLITAN, NEW-YORK MUTUAL, and WILLIAMSBURG GAS STOCKS, CITY RAILWAY and TRUST COMPANIES' STOCKS bought and sold by

W. C. NOYES,
Nos. 4 and 6 Pine st.

DEFAULTED RAILROAD BONDS A SPEcialty, and bought by the old-established house of ALBERT H. NICOLAY & CO., Stock Brokers and Auctioneers, No. 43 Pine st., New-York.

Stocks and bonds not dealt in at the New-York Stock Exchange our specialty twenty-three years.

THE HANOVER NATIONAL BANK OF THE CITY OF NEW-YORK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 11, 1874.

THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS for the ensuing year, will be held at the office of this bank, No. 33 Nassau st., on TUESDAY, Jan. 12, 1875, between the hours of 12 M. and 1 P. M.

GEORGE W. PERKINS, Cashier.

THE SECOND NATIONAL BANK OF THE CITY OF NEW-YORK, 5TH AV., CORNER 23D ST.,
NEW-YORK, Jan. 2, 1875.

THE ANNUAL ELECTION OF DIRECTORS OF this bank will be held at the bank on TUESDAY, Jan. 12, 1875, between the hours of 9 and 10 A. M.

O. D. ROBERTS, Cashier.

PHENIX NATIONAL BANK,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 29, 1874.

THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS of this bank will take place at the banking-house on TUESDAY, the 12th of January, 1875.

Polls open from 12 M. to 1 P. M.

JOHN PARKER, Cashier.

THE AMERICAN EXCHANGE NATIONAL BANK,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 1, 1874.

ELECTION.—AN ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS will be held at the office of this bank on TUESDAY, Jan. 12 next, from 12 M. to 1 o'clock P. M.

E. WILSON, Cashier.

FOURTH NATIONAL BANK OF THE CITY OF NEW-YORK,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 11, 1874.

ELECTION.—THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR NINE Directors and for three inspectors of next election, will be held at the banking-house, on TUESDAY, Jan. 12, 1875. Polls open from 12 M. to 1 o'clock P. M.

F. E. LATHROP, Assistant Cashier.

OFFICE OF LOCK SHANK BUTTON COMPANY,
Nos. 41 and 43 WARREN ST., NEW-YORK,
NEW-YORK, Jan. 6, 1875.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE STOCKholders of Lock Shank Button Company for the election of Trustees will be held at the office of the company on THURSDAY, Jan. 21, at 3 o'clock P. M.

W. T. McCREA, Secretary.

OFFICE OF RELIEF FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY
No. 149 BROADWAY, Jan. 6, 1875.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE STOCKholders of this company will be held at the office on TUESDAY, the 12th inst.

Polls open from 12 M. to 1 P. M.

W. E. CRARY, Secretary.

LOST OR MISCARRIED WHILE TRANSmitting through the mail, a note for $925, drawn by Atwood & Richmond, dated Brooklyn, Conn., Dec. 5, 1874, payable six months after date, to their own order, at the Windham County National Bank, of Brooklyn, Conn. All persons are cautioned against negotiating same, as payment has been stopped.

ATWOOD & RICHMOND.
Jan. 9, 1875.

BOWERY NATIONAL BANK, NEW-YORK, Jan. 4, 1875.

THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS of this bank will be held at the banking-room on TUESDAY, Jan. 19, 1875, between the hours of 12 M. and 1 P. M.

R. HAMILTON, Cashier.

TRADESMEN'S NATIONAL BANK,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 29, 1874.

AN ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS WILL BE held on TUESDAY, Jan. 12, from 1 to 2 P. M.

ANTHONY HALSEY, Cashier.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE STOCKholders of the AMERICAN METALINE COMPANY, and of the FOREIGN METALINE COMPANY, will be held at No. 257 Broadway, New-York, Jan. 19, at 3 P. M.

JOHN L. BURLEIGH, Secretary.

GAS, CITY RAILROAD,
TRUST COMPANIES, BANK STOCKS.

Insurance Scrip and Stock. If you wish to buy or sell apply to

SAMUEL M. SMITH, No. 71 Wall st.

BROWN BROTHERS & CO.,
NO. 59 WALL ST.,
ISSUE COMMERCIAL and TRAVELERS' CREDITS AVAILABLE in all PARTS of the WORLD.

THE NATIONAL PARK BANK,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 18, 1874.

ELECTION.—AN ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS of this Bank will be held at the banking-rooms, on TUESDAY, Jan. 12, from 12 M. to 1 o'clock P. M.

J. L. WORTH, Cashier.

FIFTH NATIONAL BANK, NEW-YORK, Jan. 7, 1875.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE STOCKholders of this bank, for the election of Directors for the ensuing year, will be held at the banking-house on TUESDAY, Jan. 12, 1875, between the hours of 12 M. and 1 P. M.

A. THOMPSON, Cashier.

DRY GOODS.

BLOOMS',
338 BOWERY. 340

JUST OPENED, TWO CASES OF MOST MAGNIFICENT STYLES OF FRENCH FLOWERS, in entirely new designs, suitable for Bridal and Evening Dresses.

MONTURES, VINES, AND GARNITURES.

Our prices are about fifty per cent. lower than usually asked for these goods elsewhere.

OSTRICH AND MARABOUT POMPONS.

PEARL, SILVER, and GILT HAIR ORNAMENTS in unique patterns.

BRIDAL and OPERA FANS of latest Parisian importation.

REAL LACES, all widths and qualities.

BLACK and WHITE FLOUNCINGS, the cheapest ever offered in this market.

New evening shades in TARLATANS and CRAPES, plain and richly embroidered.

Our assortment of SLEEVELESS JACKETS, LACE and ORGANDY OVERDRESSES, FICHUS, SHAWLS, ROTUNDES, &c., is without exception the best in the City. We make all our Lace Goods on the premises, and are thereby enabled to sell them for about one-half the prices charged elsewhere.

LATEST STYLES in TIES, SASHES, &c., SILKS and SATINS, in most DELICATE TINTS for EVENING WEAR.

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338 BOWERY, 340
BETWEEN BOND AND GREAT JONES STS.

CITY REAL ESTATE.

REAL ESTATE OWNERS AND BUYERS, Landlords and tenants, are requested to call at my office and get a copy of our REAL ESTATE REGISTER, published for the advantage of owners desiring to sell, exchange, or rent their property, either in City or country, and for the convenience of those desiring to purchase or rent, and for general information respecting New-York and Brooklyn real estate.

J. N. WYCKOFF & CO., No. 21 Park Row.

FOR SALE—AN ELEGANT SMALL FOUR-STORY brown stone house, near Central Park, between 5th and Madison avs.; trimmed throughout with cabinet work, and every room a different combination of beautiful light woods; large console and mantel mirrors in every room, on parlor and second story; frescoed throughout; all hinges bronze, some of which beautifully inlaid; with carpets, shades, chandeliers, mirrors, &c. A perfect little palace. Address Box No. 148 *Herald* Office.

I WILL EXCHANGE THE GOOD WILL, lease, and elegant fixtures of my real estate insurance, and coal business, long established and favorably known, for a small piece of City property; will add cash if required. This is a bona fide offer, and only those meaning business need apply between 9 and 11 A. M.

MORRIS B. BAER, No. 996 6th av.

FOR SALE OR EXCHANGE.—FOUR ELIGIBLE lots in the lower part of Twelfth Ward; streets curbed, guttered, and sewered; lightly encumbered; would take a medium-sized house in a good neighborhood (below 34th st. preferred) in exchange. Address EXCHANGE, Station D., New-York.

AT A SACRIFICE, TO DESIRABLE PARTY.—A First-class brown-stone high-stoop house; handsomely furnished; perfect order; immediate possession; also part of furnished house. Call at No. 125 West 42d st.

FOR SALE—THREE-STORY HIGH-STOOP BROWN-stone house; all improvements; No. 169 Lexington av., between 30th and 31st. Apply to and

COUDERT BROT

MILITARY GOSSIP.

NATIONAL GUARD NOTES.

The annual session of the State Military Association will open at Albany on Tuesday, Jan. 19.

The annual reception of the drum corps of the Thirty-second Regiment, Col. H. E. Roehr commanding, will take place next Tuesday evening.

The commissioned officers of the Fifth Regiment assembled at the armory for theoretical instruction, by Lieut. Col. Krueger, last Tuesday evening.

The election for Brigadier General of the Eighth Brigade, Fifth Division, Poughkeepsie, last Thursday, resulted in the choice of Col. George Parker, of Major Gen. James M. Husted's staff.

Capt. James A. Spencer, of Company A, First Battalion Infantry, has tendered his resignation. Lieut. William E. Horton has been elected First Lieutenant of Company H, in the same command.

The third annual meeting of the National Rifle Association will be held at the Astor House next Tuesday, at 4 P. M. The election of Directors and action upon reports of committees will constitute the principal business.

First Lieut. Edward Duffy, of Company E, Sixty-ninth Regiment, has been appointed Acting Adjutant, pending the acceptance of the resignation of Adjt. Michael Keegan. Major James P. McIvor, of this command, has tendered his resignation.

Company K, Ninth Regiment, Capt. Bird W. Spencer commanding, will hold its annual reception at Lyric Hall, Tuesday, Jan. 19. An election will be held in this command to-morrow evening to fill the vacancies caused by the resignation of Col. Frame and the promotion of Major Dow S. Kittle.

At the annual meeting of the Old Guard last Monday evening the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: George W. McLean, Major; Louis D. Backley, Senior Captain; James T. Hatfield, Junior Captain; S. A. Fuller James Davis, Sr., G. H. Chittenden, and C. G. Price, Lieutenants.

Major George Aery, formerly of the First Battalion Cavalry, N. G. S. N. Y., was elected Captain of the New-York Schuetzen Corps on Wednesday evening. Major Aery won the national badge at the recent annual meeting at Baltimore, Md. which has been successfully competed for by the New-Jersey Schuetzen Corps during the past two years.

The Forty-seventh Regiment, Brooklyn, Col. David E. Austen commanding, held its first battalion drill of the season at the armory in Grand street, last Wednesday evening. The movements executed comprised the first part of the school for the battalion with loading and firing drill, which was well executed.

At a meeting of Company F, Seventh Regiment, held last Monday evening, a set of resolutions elaborately engrossed and handsomely framed was presented to Ex Lieut. F. A. Goodwin, who recently resigned. The recipient of this testimonial had served twelve years with his company, and his resignation was received with regret by his comrades.

The lower floor of the State Arsenal was occupied by Battery K, Capt. John N. Heubner commanding, last Thursday evening. The exercises were performed under the direction of Lieut. Hoetzel, and comprised the different evolutions requisite in active service. The battery will parade in the large hall of the State Arsenal on Tuesday, the 11th inst.

On New Year's Day the staff officers of the Twenty-eighth battalion presented Col. Joseph Burger with an elegant gold medal as a token of their appreciation, with the inscription: "Col. Joseph Burger, Twenty-eighth Regiment, from his staff, Jan. 1, 1875. A. G. Papp, Adjutant; E. A. Cross, Surgeon; George Koch, Commissary; Adolph Schmidt, Quartermaster."

A complimentary reception was given on Thursday evening to Inspector General Woodward and staff, by Brig. Gen. Meserole, acting commander of the Second Division, at the residence of the latter, in Gates avenue, Brooklyn. During the evening Judge Advocate G. H. Fisher presented to Gen. Woodward a handsome bronze clock and side ornaments, as a token of esteem from the former members of his staff.

An amendment to the military code made by the last Legislature of this State provides that the Presidents of regimental and brigade courts-martial must be Judge Advocates, sworn in by Justices of the Peace. As no such officer exists in the Cities of New-York or Brooklyn, a court-martial cannot be ordered until this law is corrected. It is to be hoped that the Legislature will take some action in the matter at the earliest opportunity, as important cases are now awaiting a judication in both the First and Second Divisions.

Company G, Seventy-first Regiment, Capt. Abram L. Webber commanding held a drill at the armory on Monday night. The movements executed were principally selected from the school of the company. Company F, Capt. Theodore V. Smith commanding, held its annual meeting on Wednesday night, and elected a board of civil officers for the ensuing year. The committee having in charge the annual reception, to be held on Feb 22, will hold a meeting, for the purpose of arrangements, at the armory next Wednesday at 8 P. M.

The annual meeting of the Separate Troop Cavalry, Capt. Karl Klein commanding, was held at the armory last Wednesday evening. The following civil officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Capt. Karl Klein; Secretary, Charles Nagel; Treasurer, John P. Munster; President of Court-martial, Martin Held; Chairman of the Armory Committee, Corp. J. Jn Kimpel. A rifle club was organized during the same evening. The annual ball of this troop will be held at Teutonia Hall, next Wednesday evening. Unusual efforts have been made to make this entertainment a social success among the German-Americans.

The following recommendations, made by the Military Examining Board at its sessions, Nov. 24, 1874, have been approved and confirmed:

1. That the commission of Second Lieut. William Henry, Twenty-eighth Battalion Infantry, be vacated for disobedience of the Commander-in-Chief in not appearing for examination.

2. That the resignations of the following-named officers, presented during the session of the board, be accepted, viz.: Capt. George Lowden, Seventy-ninth Regiment; First Lieut. and Adjt. Michael Keegan, Sixty-ninth Regiment.

The Board of Officers of the Eleventh Regiment, Col. Frederick Vilmar commanding, held a meeting on Tuesday evening, for the completion of the necessary preparations for the celebration of its anniversary on Feb. 22. Company I, Capt. Henry Schmuel commanding, held a drill on Thursday evening. The equalization was made with twenty-five front, and the movements executed were principally taken from the school for the company and the manual of arms. An election will be held in Company E on Friday, the 29th inst., to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Second Lieut. Maud Massduff.

The Fifty-fifth Regiment, Col. Edward Gilon commanding, held its annual meeting last Wednesday evening. Lieut. Theodore M. Berger, of Company G, was elected Secretary, and Lieut. Col. F. A. Schilling, Treasurer of the Board of Officers. A committee, consisting of Adjutant Jackson, Major Zuschlag, and Capt. Warner, was appointed to revise the regimental by-laws, and submit the same for approval at the next regular meeting of the Board of Officers. Second Lieut. John Peter Hay, of Company G, has been elected Captain of Company F. A committee was recently appointed to confer with the officers of the Gardes Lafayette, with a view to reuniting it to this regiment. An early settlement is expected. This command will parade for drill at the armory on Feb. 9, 16, and 25, and March 9, 16, and 23, at 8 P. M.

The Eighty-fourth Regiment, Lieut. Col. Beattie commanding, paraded at the State Arsenal, last Wednesday evening, for battalion drill. The command was equalized in eight companies of twelve files front. The exercises commenced with the manual of arms, after which the drill commenced, but was not very successful, owing to the desire of Brig. Gen. Conking to witness the passage of the battalion in review. As it was not satisfactory to that officer in the first passage a second was ordered, during which the commanding officer was ignored and the instructions given by the review officer. The result of this interference was a very poorly performed drill. The proceedings terminated in a dress parade. Capt. James Kerr, of company F, has resigned, owing to the expiration of his term of service.

Company G, Seventh Regiment, Capt. George W. Ely commanding, paraded, twenty front, for drill, at the State Arsenal, last Monday evening. Company E, Capt. George P. Barrett, paraded twenty-two on Tuesday, and Company B, Capt. Van Orden commanding, paraded twenty-six files on Thursday. The drills comprised the movements contained in the school for the company and the manual of arms. Lieut. Col. Ryder announces his intention to devote one evening to the drill of the officers and non-commissioned officers, and during the season several companies will be consolidated for the purpose of drilling in battalion movements. The members of company F in this command, Capt. E. O. Bird commanding, paraded yesterday for the purpose of paying a final tribute to their late comrade, Charles A. Clendenning, who died, after a brief illness, on Thursday morning.

Major Gen. John B. Woodward officiated as President of the Board of Officers of the Second Division, on Monday night, for the last time before proceeding to assume the position of Inspector General of the State. Owing to the importance of the occasion, all but two of his staff officers were present, and there were numerous expressions of regret at the severance of the pleasant relations which had existed between their superior officer and themselves during a period of over six years. An association was formed under the title of "Gen. Woodward's Staff," which will meet annually in social reunion, on the anniversary of the date of Gen. Woodward's commission—March 25—when a banquet will form part of the celebration. Gen. Woodward was elected President, and Gen. Henry Heath, late Chief of Staff, Secretary of the Association. The first annual banquet will take place Thursday, March 25.

The third of the series of band concerts, given by the Twenty-third Regiment, Brooklyn, took place at its armory, in Clermont avenue, last evening. A select programme was performed by the regimental band, under the direction of Prof. Conterno. At the annual meeting of the Brooklyn City Guard, Company G, in this command, held at No. 26 Court street, last Wednesday evening, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Charles J. Holt; Vice President, William J. Oliver; Treasurer, J. Oscar Voute; Recording Secretary, W. F. Harmon; Financial Secretary, Eugene W. Bird; Board of Directors, Clifford L. Middleton, J. L. Walsh, and Charles H. Pennoyer. The new room assigned to this company in the regimental armory is being furnished, and will shortly be ready for occupancy.

The Twelfth Regiment, Col. John Ward commanding, will hold the first of a series of promenade concerts at the armory, corner of Forty-fifth street and Broadway, on Wednesday, Jan. 20, commencing at 8 P. M. Special orders from headquarters of the First Brigade provide that pursuant to the laws governing the militia of this State, an election will be held on the 15th inst., at the Regimental Armory, corner of Broadway and Forty-fifth street at 8:30 P. M., to fill the vacancy caused by the promotion of Lieut. Col. Henry A. Gildersleeve. The commissioned officers held a theoretical drill at the armory last Thursday evening. First Lieut. John B. Morss, Commissary of Subsistence in this command, has tendered his resignation, owing to the expiration of his term of service, and his removal from the district. Company B, Capt. Charles S. Burns commanding will celebrate its anniversary on Washington's birthday by a dinner at the Regiment's Armory.

The seventh annual reception of the Twenty-second Regiment, Col. Josiah Porter commanding, will take place at the Academy of Music, to-morrow evening. The preparations for the entertainment are now completed, and owing to the strenuous efforts of the officers, the affair will be of the first class. Great care has been exercised in issuin invitations to prevent the admission of objectionable parties, and there can be no doubt that the occasion will be the principal military event of the season. An election will be held next Wednesday, at 8 P. M., in Company I. Lieut. William Van Antwerp commanding, to fill the vacancy caused by the transfer of Capt. John H. Horstall to Company F. Mr. Aaron C. Allen will probably be the successful candidate. This Company held its annual meeting at the armory last Monday evening. Sergt. E. M. Ford was elected Treasurer, and Sergt. N. S. Towner Secretary for the ensuing year. The Chairman presented a Sharps breech-loading rifle to Private L. H. Grove for having recruited the largest number of members during the past year.

The commissioned officers and Sergeant Major of the Thirteenth Regiment, Col. James Jourdan commanding, assembled for theoretical instruction at the armory on Friday evening. The non-commissioned officers of this command have been directed to assemble in fatigue uniform at the armory on Wednesday, the 20th inst., at 8 P. M. for drill and instruction in escorts, from each of the companies whose regular drills fall on the dates on which these drills are ordered will be excused from attendance. The field officers, Adjutant, non-commissioned staff officers, and the several companies of the regiment will assemble, in fatigue uniform, for drill and instruction, at the State Arsenal, Portland avenue, on Tuesday, the 12th, and Monday, the 18th instant, at 7:30 P. M. The Drum Major will detail one drummer to report to the Adjutant for duty upon each occasion designated above. The following promotions have been promulgated: Edward A. Coffin, of C Company, to be First Lieutenant, vice Pedroncelli, promoted to be Captain; First Sergt. Norwood, of D Company, to be Second Lieutenant, vice Kemston, promoted to be First Lieutenant. Warrants have been granted to the following-named non-commissioned officers, having passed the Board of Examination: First Sergeants—Robert Rae, A Company; William L. Franz, C Company; and James Ryan, E Company. Sergeant—James Nevin, D Company. Corporals—Michael Geraghty, William Friday, Charles F. Maxfield, Thomas Sweney, and George Colgan, E. Company; Eugene Kerr, Charles Codet, and Charles F. Stephenson, I Company.

The Seventh Regiment has decided to decline the invitation received some weeks since from the Mayor of New-Orleans to be present at the Mardi Gras festivities in February next. The following is the letter of Col. Clark to the Chairman of the Committee of Arrangements:

HEAD-QUARTERS SEVENTH REGIMENT N. G. S. N. Y., NEW-YORK, Jan. 8, 1875.

E. C. Hancock, Esq., E. M. E. School of Design, New-Orleans:

DEAR SIR: The flattering invitation extended to this regiment to visit New-Orleans during the Mardi Gras festivities, and the letter of his Honor the Mayor needing the kind and co-operation of the City Government in entertaining the regiment during the proposed visit, were duly received some weeks since. The subject has been carefully considered by a special committee of the board of officers of this regiment, and it has been finally decided that it is hopeless able for the regiment to visit New-Orleans during the present year.

The board of officers instruct me to say that circumstances beyond their control have led to this decision; that nothing could afford this regiment greater pleasure than now to visit both the famous Metropolis of the South and that your hospitable invitation, indorsed by the municipal authorities, is regarded as a most distinguished honor.

I beg to assure you that the kindly sentiments expressed by yourself and by his Honor the Mayor, in respect to this regiment, and the people of this City generally, and the desire "that the most friendly relations should now exist between each and all sections of the Union" are heartily reciprocated by the officers and members of this regiment. That such relations may continue to exist in an intimate time, and that peace and prosperity may smile upon all parts of our common country is the earnest wish of those I have the honor to represent.

With great respect, yours truly,

EMMONS CLARK,
Colonel Seventh Regiment, N. G. S. N. Y.

ORIENTAL EXPERIENCES.

A JOURNEY TO THE GREAT WALL OF CHINA —THE EMPEROR'S SUMMER GARDEN.

The San Francisco *Alta* publishes interesting extracts from private letters received in that city from a gentleman connected with the Watson transit of Venus party. One of these, dated Peking, China, Oct. 30, says:

"My last closed with the information that we were going to the Great Wall on the next morning. Since then we have been there and have returned, and are now estimating how much we would charge to go through the same thing over again. Seven A. M. Friday, the 23d ult., was fixed as the time for our start. Our procession consisted of nine carts—one apiece for ourselves and two servants. These carts I hinted about in my last—we became better acquainted with them on this trip. They are covered affairs, with a rounded top, furnished with two heavy wheels, and springless. The donkey is harnessed well back in the shafts, his tail almost touching a little protruding sill on which the driver sits, and where you also take refuge when you can no longer stand the bumps inside. Inside of these carts we packed our bedding—a hair mattress—one filled with cotton-batting, a coverlet filled with the same—and then ourselves. We had not gone a hundred yards before, the cart giving a lurch, I gave my head a fearful bump against the side, and, thus admonished, crept out of my hole and clanged my legs over the shafts. I finally got used to it, so that I could stand it inside, except in the roughest places, but the other was most comfortable. Our first stopping place was about a mile outside the north wall of the city, at a Brahmin temple, which contains a large marble monument to the Holy Llama, some forty feet high. The base is octagonal, bearing raised carvings representing the life of their deity. He was born from a tree, and after attaining man's estate fell sick and retired to the wilderness, where he passed his time in a cross-legged position, besieged by wild beasts and demons and tempted by flattery and gifts. He finally dies, his death-bed being surrounded by weeping friends and dogs. From his coffin he is represented as rising to the clouds, and the last representation is his ex alted state sitting, still cross-legged, on a white elephant, which has the unstable foundation of the clouds to stand on.

A mile or so to the west brought us to the great bell, 14½ feet high and 11 feet across. The entire exterior and interior of this bell are covered with Chinese characters, which are cast with a remarkable sharpness. I send you some Autumn (vine) leaves which grow here, and at the Summer garden of the Emperor, which was the next place we visited. These gardens were destroyed by the bombardment of the English and French, as you know; and although it seemed to us a piece of vandalism, it doubtless saved many lives, as Pekin is in full sight, and the inhabitants, terrified at such treatment of what they considered almost holy, yielded without resistance. And but for this vandalism we would never have obtained entrance. I cannot describe the scene. Imagine a beautiful sheet of water, several miles long, covered with the lotus flower, and surrounded by odd bridges and Summer houses, then a hill thickly wooded, topped with a handsome building, and surrounded by numerous small ones, approached by a series of steps on steps leading down to the marble boat-landing. Then imagine all except the highest building desolated by fire, which was so intense as to pull off in huge flakes the marble from the guarding lions at the entrance, and to calcine into a shapeless mass the memorial tablet-bearing turtles. Imagine the ruins of something beautiful beyond description, and you will have formed some idea of his Celestial Majesty's Summer gardens. Their value before being destroyed is estimated at $50,000,000. Everything is left as the fire left it; the Chinese cannot afford to restore them. There is no change except where later vandals have broken off pieces of that which was still left entire. The steps and grounds are entirely cumbered with the glazed tiles and bricks which formed the roofs and balustrades. I have one of the tiles; a brick was too much for me.

We slept that night in a temple, the next day we traveled in a rain-storm to the mouth of Nankow Pass; the next day went up the Pass to the Great Wall, and after taking some views, returned. The temperature was 38°, and snow all around. On Monday we visited the Ming Tomb, where is the avenue of gigantic marble animals, and slept that night in a Chinese inn, as usual, with a lot of donkeys, mules, chickens, dogs, and smaller and more lively animals, and the next afternoon arrived in Peking."

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

HOME AND FOREIGN GOSSIP.

DOMESTIC NOTES.

Mrs. Oates was last week in Indianapolis.

Lotta was last week at the Boston Theatre.

Miss Morris was at the Chicago Academy of Music.

Mr. John S. Clarke acted last week in Reading.

Mrs. Bowers was last week reported in Mobile.

Mr. Joseph Jefferson last week acted in Memphis.

Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Booth were last week at Albany.

Mlle. Aimée was last week at the Boston Globe.

Miss Charlotte Thompson was last week in Buffalo.

Miss Julia Seaman was starring last week in Rochester.

Mrs. F. W. Lander was at De Bar's, in St. Louis, last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Barney Williams act at the Walnut Street Theatre this week.

Mme. Janauschek and Mr. G. L. Fox have lately delighted Richmond audiences.

The Soldene Opera Bouffe Troupe was last week at the Chesnut Street Theatre, in Philadelphia.

Mr. Theodore Habelman, with Mr. Carl Bernard and Herr Formes, is giving German opera in St. Louis.

Mr. John McCulloch has been acting *Hamlet* at his California theatre, and all San Francisco is delighted.

Miss Neilson is at present in this City, under the care of Dr. Sims. It is believed she will be able to resume her tour Jan. 25.

Daly's Fifth Avenue Theatre Company—or rather a section thereof—was last week at the Walnut Street Theatre, in Philadelphia.

Antonio Maria Del Casta Hernandez, better known as "Tony" Hernandez, died suddenly at Montevideo, Uruguay, Oct. 25. He was a native of Havana, Cuba, and was about forty-two years of age.

The series of twelve "Peabody Concerts," given by the Baltimore Conservatory of Music, of which Mr. Asger Hamerik is director, has been entered upon. The programme of the first concert included the overture to Glück's "Iphigenia;" Beethoven's fifth piano concerto; Hummel's "Air and Variations;" opus 118; Erdmansdorffer's "Princess Ilse" overture; a violin cavatina and tarantelle, by Raff, and Hamerik's first "Norse" Suite. The artists were Mme. Nanette Falk-Auerbach, pianist; Miss Jennie Bull, contralto, and Concert Master Emil Seifert, of Berlin, violinist. The programme for the second entertainment, which occurred yesterday, was as follows: Second Symphony, D major, L. Van Beethoven; air from "Rinaldo," F. G. Handel, Mrs. Jule De Ryther, of New-York; "Out in the Free Air," concert-piece in the form of an overture, Bernhard Scholz; Fourth Concerto, D minor, Anton Rubinstein, Miss Lina Anten, of St. Louis; English songs, Mrs. Jule De Ryther; overture to Calderon's "Lady Puck," Carl Reinecke. We ought to have similar concerts in New-York.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

The following circular has been issued by the Lord Chamberlain of England to the theatrical managers under his jurisdiction:

MEMORANDUM.

Public attention has lately been called by a series of articles in the principal London newspapers to the question of the "License of the State," and I am glad to observe from the unanimous tone of those articles, and from the numberless letters which I have received on the subject, that a feeling of shame has been aroused in the public mind that the English stage should have reached its present degraded state by the indecent dances and the immodest dresses which now form so prominent a part of the entertainments at some theatres.

I take the opportunity of informing the managers of those theatres within my jurisdiction of my entire concurrence in these opinions, and my anxious wish that, with their co-operation and assistance, these demoralizing exhibitions should be removed from the stage.

With regard to indecent dances, I have already intimated my determination to put a stop to them, even by peremptorily closing a theatre if compelled to do so. It has been my painful duty, in a recent case, to refuse the renewal of my license, after the disclosures in a court of law; and I shall continue to exert the authority intrusted to my office, so as to prevent, as far as possible, breaches of public decorum.

I am fully aware that it is impossible by any act of official authority to prescribe the dimensions of a dress, or to regulate details of costume, and that attempts to do so would be attended with ridicule and consequent failure. Such matters fall necessarily to the province of the managers, and I have no wish to depart from the course pursued by my predecessors, as stated in their circulars of October, 1855, and January, 1860, of leaving to the managers the responsibility of these and other details.

I would, however, urgently repeat the appeal made to them to assist in abating the then growing scandal, which has now reached a climax, and once more ask their assistance and co-operation in putting a stop to it.

I inclose a copy of Lord Sydney's circular of 1869, with every word of which I entirely agree, and I would particularly call their attention to his Lordship's remarks as to the effect of these exhibitions in creating enemies to the theatre of those who have hitherto been its friends, by the debasing performances so often exhibited. I feel certain that all true dramatic artists, and all real friends to the stage view the question in a similar light, and that, with the assistance of the managers, much might now be done to restorea healthy tone to the stage.

I shall gladly receive from the manager of the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, who has been good enough to acknowledge this circular, the expression of his opinion upon the subject, and any suggestions which he may wish to offer with regard to it.

HERTFORD, Lord Chamberlain.

Lord Chamberlain's Office, Dec. 21.

The following is a copy of the circular addressed by Viscount Sydney to the managers of the theatres within the jurisdiction of the Lord Chamberlain. The Circular is dated the 28th of January, 1869:

"The Lord Chamberlain presents his compliments to the manager of —— Theatre. He has learned with regret, from observations in the press and from other sources, that there is much reason to complain of the impropriety of costume of the ladies in the pantomimes, burlesques, &c., which are now being nightly performed in the metropolitan theatres. He has noticed for some time past that this evil has been gradually on the increase, but he has been most unwilling to interfere in a matter which he considers ought more properly to be left to the discretion and good taste of the managers themselves. Now, however, that the question has been taken up by the press, and public opinion is being expressed upon it, he feels himself compelled to call the serious attention of the managers to the subject; for he cannot but remark the discredit that now justly falls to the stage, and the objections which are being raised against it by many who have hitherto frequented the theatres, but who now profess themselves unwilling to permit the ladies of their families to sanction by their presence such questionable exhibitions.

The Lord Chamberlain, with every anxiety to promote the interests of the stage, trusts that he may confidently appeal to the managers to assist in abating the evil complained of, which threatens to become a public scandal.

He has purposely addressed these observations in the form of a circular to the managers of all theatres under his jurisdiction, without imputing blame to any in particular, and will gladly receive from them any observations or suggestions which they may wish to offer on the subject."

ORNAMENTAL FEATHERS.

An interesting account of the manufacture of ornamental feathers, an industry which employs about 240 working women and apprentices in Vienna, is given, says the *Pall Mall Gazette*, in the "Translations of Official Austrian Reports on the Universal Exhibition" in that city last year. The coloring is done by men, the other processes mostly by women. African ostrich feathers are most usually manufactured. These are white, black, gray, and dappled, and are classified according to quality, as "prima," "secunda," &c. Other feathers frequently worked are those of the white heron, bird of Paradise, and marabou (there are genuine marabou feathers and false.) The white prima ostrich feather is the finest of all. The feather is cleaned first by a cold soap bath, well washed twice or thrice, and then put into warm soap baths, afterward well washed in cold water, then blued a little, pressed and swung to and fro in the air until the hairs have spread and the feather is quite dry. Next, with a small, sharp knife the strong rib at the back is cut away. The feather loses its stiffness and acquires pliability. With small feathers this is obtained by scraping the the rib with glass. Then the hairs on each side of the rib are made to curl in, with a blunt knife, and the requisite uniformity of shape is given them by combing them over a slightly warmed iron. Next, in order to hide the rib, the worker with a blunt knife twists here and there some hairs of the feather spirally over the rib until it is completely concealed by them. The feather is then threaded with a wire, folded in paper, and so completed. The same process is followed with gray and black ostrich feathers, except that the gray are generally and the black always colored. White feathers are only colored for some particular fashion of color, as blue, rose, violet, &c. If the hair on a feather is not dense enough, or the feather is detective, then two or three feathers are sewn together and curled. This is done with both short and long feathers. Long feathers are called "leaf feathers," "Amazons;" short feathers, generally three of a bundle, are called "panache." Single and sewn feathers are distinguished in both. The hair of the ostrich feather is also much used for the manufacture of fancy feathers—cockades, fringes, &c., are made of these. The feathers are twined by a machine, and then joined to the hairs of other feathers. These combinations are called "pleureuses," and pieces of ostrich feather are sewn together to a length of some ells, and called "bordures," and are used to decorate dresses. There is an American ostrich feather called "vulture," which is worked like the African, but is inferior to it in quality. Tempting white feathers called marabouture much worked. They are used for fancy feathers, the points of small white or colored pigeon feathers, and very small fragments of silk and the like are joined on to them. "Bordures" for ball dresses are made of them. It is evident from this account that "to show the white feather" is a process which entails some trouble and expense.

ART NOTES.

"SALVAGE" PICTURES—ARCHITECTURE IN ENGLAND—ANECDOTES OF FRENCH PAINTERS.

The new building for the Academy of Fine Arts at Vienna is rapidly approaching completion, and preparations are being made to select artists to decorate the interior.

Some of the French papers are witty at the expense of American picture buyers. The latest story told is of a French artist who had taken "The Death of a Poodle" as his theme, and had told the story most touchingly, as he flattered himself, but unfortunately no one else seemed to think so. Happening to possess a poodle himself, he placed the animal in front of the picture and gave him a severe beating. This was repeated until the picture and the beating became indissolubly connected in the animal's mind as cause and effect. In due time an American gentleman entered the studio, examined "The Dying Poodle," and was about to express disapproval, when the poodle rushed in, lay down before the picture, and howled in the most heart-rending manner. This was enough. A picture that could so touch the brute's feelings must be good, and it therefore was purchased at once at a price very satisfactory to the artist.

The London *Daily Telegraph* says: "A number of 'salvage' pictures and drawings, rescued from a fire at the house of a gentleman in Kensington Palace-gardens, were sold a few days since at Christie's, and the prices realized show the high estimation in which works of modern art are held by connoisseurs. There were Bonningtons, Birket Fosters, Friths, Copley Fieldings, Creswicks, F. Taylers, Linnells, John Phillips, Sidney Coopers, Rosa Bonheurs, and Mullers galore, both in oil and water. Some had their corners burned off; others were singed and scorched throughout; others were cracked or blistered, or soaked with water, and some had holes right through. Yet these pictorial cripples realized prices ranging between fifty and a hundred guineas, and, in many cases, it is not improbable that more was given for a half-burned sketch than had been originally received for it by the painter himself. But the life of a painting is often a very strange one. It will be remembered that some of the most magnificent pictures in the world have been rescued from destruction almost by a miracle. The vessel which was bearing Rafaelle's wonderful work "Procession to Calvary," otherwise known as "Il Spasimo," suffered shipwreck, and the packing-case containing the picture—which is said, to this day, to be redolent of the briny ocean—was flung by the tide on the shore near Messina. Hence the painting, now in the Madrid Museum, is termed the "Spasimo di Sicilia." On the other hand, art has had to deplore the annihilation by fire and water of a multitude of consummate pieces. By the first perished the entire series of Hogarth's "Harlot's Progress;" Murillo's great altar-piece for the Cathedral of Puebla, in Mexico, was lost in the galleon conveying the work from Cadiz to Vera Cruz; and, only the other day, a number of splendid mural paintings by Edwin Landseer were destroyed in the conflagration of a country mansion. Five of the cartoons are no more, and the remaining seven have gone through an extraordinary career of vicissitudes. Still, on the whole, a picture seems to have as many lives as a cat, and there is some consolation in knowing that so long as a single square inch of its surface remains uninjured it possesses some intrinsic value.

At a meeting of the Royal Institute of British Architects Mr. W. H. White read a paper on "The Hope of English Architecture," in which he traced the progress of art on the Continent and in Britain from the tenth century downward. Since the eighth century the large abbevs and even the priories had established round their cloisters and on their domains workshops of curriers, carpenters, joiners, smiths, goldsmiths, sculptors, and painters, and those workshops, although composed indiscriminately of clerks and laymen, were amenable to discipline, and their work was methodical. The twelfth century was remarkable as a period when the working classes left the seclusion of the cloisters, and formed themselves into lay corporations or guilds in imitation of those originally organized by the religious establishments; though in changing their centre they merely changed their direction, and instead of working inside the cloister worked outside of it. Once out of monastic leading strings architecture, like all the other arts, became an *affair* of the business, or profession—and that the impulse given to it in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries was the work of a few men is proved from the similarity of form and details which exists in the principal buildings erected at that time in France, Western Germany, England, and Northern Spain. The lecturer gave instances of this by referring to cathedrals at Laon, Notre Dame, Rheims, and Gerona. Art, he contended, was now suffering from a superabundance of vigor, but the mistakes of the present must surely instil caution into the artists of the next generation. If, however, the principles of construction were not now uniformly respected, it was because they were not understood by the people. If the philosophy of architecture was only studied by a minority of the profession it was because it was ignored by the upper classes. In the universal acceptation of the inseparable nature of beauty and utility had ever been, and must ever be, the future hope of all architecture. Mr. I'Anson believed that the Victorian epoch would be as distinct a school, and be as full of thought and genius, as other schools that had gone before. But the architect of the present day could not devote the whole of his time and attention to one building, as his more remote predecessors had done. Prof. Kerr condemned the "drawing competitions," as not bringing out talent, but always being delusive. He thought the true remedy for any defect in art was the study of the philosophy of art, and recommended criticism of artistic design as a healthy study. Sir Edmund Beckett recommended that architects should not be allowed to practice without being certified as qualified, in the same way as lawyers and surgeons.

The following anecdotes of Charles F. Daubigny and Meissonnier are given in the French press:

"When only twelve years of age young Daubigny was employed by a jeweler to paint fruit and flowers on boxes and brooches. His means at the time were very limited, and his father was not able to satisfy the desire he had for studying art; consequently he, with a friend named Robert, used to ride together and save all of their earnings, so as to enable them to go to Italy. For this purpose they built a small box in the wall of their lodgings, which was to be their bank, leaving only a small aperture into which all of their spare pennies were to be thrown. They were often tempted to break open their bank, until finally, on coming across a work to read the temptation any longer, they tore down the wall, and found to their delight that their treasure consisted of 1,400 francs, (about $280.) making 700 francs for each of the depositors. With this small fortune in their possession, they started on their long-contemplated voyage to Italy, stopping at the principal cities to admire the works of art in the cathedrals and churches, and to study nature in the different aspects in which it presented itself to them. But the sum of 700 francs was not going to last long, and they were obliged to return to Paris. During this trip Daubigny had contracted that passion for nature which has since made of him one of the great masters of the day. On his return he resided in a secluded house in the Rue La Censaie, which was often frequented by Meissonnier, Steinheil, Pascal, Dumier, and many others." "Daubigny is now fifty-seven years of age, and would enjoy good health if it were not that he is troubled once in awhile with the gout. He spends the Summers with his son Karl, sketching from nature. The favorite way of taking his sketches is to drift down a stream in a boat, which is his studio, and whenever a picturesque point presents itself he throws out his anchor and makes his study at leisure. Notwithstanding that he took seventy-seven studies during the past Summer, he is unable to satisfy the increasing demand for his pictures. Daubigny's paintings all bear the character of studies from nature; hence their high appreciation by connoisseurs."

Meissonnier's merits were not at first recognized by the picture-dealers, and like Giraud, Turner, David Cox, and many other greater men, he was glad to dispose of his works for merely nominal sums. But he could not always do even this. Returning one day from a fruitless search for a purchaser, he told his friend Daubigny of his ill-fortune. "But the worst of it is," said he, "I would give anything to have a game of billiards, but I have not a sou to gratify my wish." "You know," replied Daubigny, "that I would willingly lend you some money if I had any to spare, but I have only just twenty-four cents for my dinner this evening." "Well," said Meissonnier, "I will tell you what I will do. Give me your twenty-four cents and you shall have my water-color." Daubigny accepted the offer, and the picture still adorns the purchaser's studio.

SUIT AGAINST THE BERGEN HILL TUNNEL CONTRACTORS.

Ex-Mayor Sawyer, counsel for the families of the four men who were killed by being thrown down shaft No. 5 of the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad tunnel through Bergen Hill, N. J., yesterday notified the company that suit was about to be commenced against them to recover $100,000 damages. The company returned word that they were not liable; that John McAndrews, a contractor, had been awarded the contract, and was to deliver the tunnel to the company within a certain length of time, and to assume all responsibilities connected with the work. Mr. Sawyer will, on Monday, commence suit against Mr. McAndrews.

FINANCIAL AFFAIRS.

SALES AT THE STOCK EXCHANGE—JAN. 9.

SALES BEFORE THE CALL—10 A. M.

$1,000 B. H. & E. 1st c.	23½	700 Erie		c.	28¼
1700 Western Union	77⅝	400		c.	28¾
100 do.	s3. 77¼	100		s10.	28⅝
2300 do.	77⅜	500		do.	28⅝
100 do.	c. 77⅜	300	North-western	c.	47⅛
100 At. & Pac Pref.	15⅝	300		s3.	47
500 Union Pacific	37⅛	300		do.	47¼
500 do.	s3. 37	100	Tol. & Wabash		17¼
300 do.	37¼	300		do.	17⅜
500 Pacific Mail	34	300		do.	17¼
200 do.	s3. 33⅞	100		do.	17
300 do.	b3. 34	600		do.	16¾
300 do.	33⅝	100		do.	16⅝
400 do.	33¾	600		do.	16⅝
200 do.	33⅞	200		do.	16⅞
500 do.	34	900		do.	16¾
100 Lake Shore	s15. 79⅛	100		do.	s30. 16½
700 do.	79¼	400		do.	16⅞
2600 do.	79⅛	400		do.	17
300 do.	c. 79⅛	100	Ohio & Miss.		32¼
200 do.	ex d. 76	100		do.	32⅜
200 do.	ex d. 75⅞	500	St. Paul		39
1600 do.	79	20		do.	38¾
200 do.	78⅞	400		do.	39⅛
100 do.	c. 78⅞	400		do.	39¼
100 Rock Island	103¼	100		do.	b3. 39¼
100 do.	c. 103¼	200		do.	39

GOVERNMENT STOCKS—10:15 TO 11:30 A. M.

$2,000 U. S. 6s, '81, C.	118⅜	$2,000 U. S. 5-20C., '67.	118¼
5,000 U. S. 5-20C., '64.	116¼	20,000 U. S. 5 20 C., '67.	b. c. 118⅜
500 U. S. 5-20 C., '65, s. small.	116⅜	3,000 U. S. 5-20 C., '65.	12.118

FIRST BOARD—10:30 A. M.

$2,000 Mo. Ca. I. bs.	95½	1000 Erie		b. c. s3.	28⅝
11,000 Tenn. 6s. n. s.	53	200		do.	28⅝
12,000 Tenn. 6s, old, x c.	b. c. 53	100	L. S. & M. S.	b. c.	79
15,000 Tenn. 6s, new, x c.	b. c. 53	200		do.	78⅞
3,000 St. L., J. & C. 1st.	97	500		do.	78⅝
5,000 C. & R. I. & P. 7s.	106¼	700		do.	s3. 78⅝
5,000 N. J. C. 1st con.	103¼	300		do.	78⅝
1,000 do.	103	300		do.	c. 78⅝
10,000 Internat'l 1st.	72	100		do.	78¾
5,000 M. & S. P. 7s, Gd.	82	500		do.	s3. 78⅝
1,000 C. & N. W. Con.		600		do.	78⅝
Cp. Gd. bs.	82⅜	1500		do.	s3. 78⅝
9,000 C. & N. W. Con.	90½	200		do.	c. 78⅝
11,000 L. S. C. R. 1st.	101	100		do.	c. 78¾
7

EUROPEAN GOSSIP.

POLITICAL AND SOCIAL TOPICS.

THE ARNIM TRIAL—MME. DE ROTHSCHILD'S CASE—GERMAN OFFICIALS—THE STRENGTH OF FAITH—A BLIND GIRL'S ADVENTURES—PARISIAN CHIT-CHAT.

From Our Own Correspondent.

PARIS, Friday, Dec. 18, 1874.

Chancellor Oxenstein's saying to his son, when the latter was starting upon his travels, "Go, my boy, and see with how little wisdom the world is governed," must have been recalled to many minds during the Arnim trial. According to the French version, the Chancellor said, "Go, my son, and see by what imbeciles the affairs of peoples are conducted." On reading the documents given to the world at this time, and on studying the men who are concerned in the trial, we are involuntarily led to ask ourselves if this is an average sample of German diplomacy. All but Prince Bismarck have come out of the affair greatly diminished. He alone has shown us strength and manliness. We at first looked for a battle of giants, but find it merely a scuffle between a strong man and a pigmy. Count Arnim is like a school-boy that revolts against his master, and is only interesting on account of his insolent impertinence. His reports amply prove the justice of Prince Bismarck's criticism, that they were written in "feuilleton style," and the notes upon the margins of these papers are puerile and extremely "soft." They remind one of the notes young ladies are apt to write upon the first romances they are allowed to take from the circulating libraries. Think of the Ambassador of the German Empire, the representative of a great and victorious nation, writing "Oh! Edwin!" upon the margin of a note by Gen. Manteuffel! None of these publications seem to have much bearing upon the charges, or any bearing that would not have been met by an official catalogue and summary; nor do they support the accusations to any great extent. If anything, these school-girl notes would appear to indicate that M. D'Arnim really did consider the documents his private property, for the other horn to the dilemma is that we must write him down an ass. When I recalled the *mot* of old Oxenstein I intended to refer to certain revelations brought out during the trial, tending to show with how little wisdom the affairs of Prussia were managed here in Paris. Prince Bismarck frequently wrote to his subordinate to beware of the French Police spies, and quite recently a great deal of noise was made about the detection of a spy in one of Prince Hohenlohe's Swiss servants. In the time of Arnim the Embassy was as difficult to enter as a convent. Every avenue was carefully guarded, and visitors were taken to the Ambassador's Cabinet with all sorts of precautions. But here come several superior employes of the Embassy who swear before the Berlin tribunal that Count Arnim had the constant habit of throwing his most important State papers and reports upon a table, pell-mell with a lot of newspapers, and this table was in the room used as an ante-chamber to the Ambassador's Cabinet. Persons waiting their turn could read at will, and when there were no visitors the servants were free to regale themselves with diplomatic literature. One of the papers read in court was found in a drawer, where it had been thrown and forgotten; and the registration books show that the dispatches were entered in batches, when at all, and without any sort of classification or order.

GELMAN OFFICIALS.

Moreover, to look at another point, an amiable sort of confidence seems to have been excited at the Embassy. Every member seemed to have a special mission to watch over and spy upon some other. M. Holstein was in indirect correspondence with Prince Bismarck behind the back of Arnim, Scheven and Hanmmerstein were special agents, and Beckman "the paid agent of the press," regularly carried to Holstein the confidences with which he was honored by the Ambassador. This state of things reminds one of the system of Vienna, where there is an inspector and a controller for nearly every employe. The poll-tax of four kreutzers paid for entering the city demands an inspector, and after paying you are stopped half a dozen yards further on by the controller. Between the Frantz-Joseph's quai and the Haupt Allée from one to three inspectors mounted the street cars to examine the tickets, the first to look after the conductor; the second to see that the first inspector had torn a piece from each ticket; the third to control the second inspector, and so on no one knows how far. Every official has his inspector, and every inspector his inspector, the series reminding one of the old verse upon the order of nature:

"Great fleas have little fleas
Upon their backs to bite 'em;
And little fleas have lesser fleas,
And so *ad infinitum*."

In some American cities—New-Orleans, for example—conductors were abolished altogether, for experience demonstrated the superior honesty of the people over any paid agents whatever. But this is not the case in Germany, nor in Teutonic administrations. A superficial observer might deduce the apothegm that "honesty is a question of inspectors." With respect to the case of Baron Holstein, I heard the other day, from a high officer in the British Army, a story illustrating the Prussian system. While stationed in India, with a crack regiment, two Prussian officers passed that way, and it was resolved to give them the hospitalities of the mess. Before accepting the invitation, being gentlemen, they had to make a very remarkable statement. They declared themselves in duty bound, by the regulations of their service, to report all that they saw or heard, even in a regimental mess. The note created no little astonishment on the part of the English officers, who would as soon think of cutting their throats as reporting what was said at a private dinner. "And what did you do?" I asked, with curiosity. "Do," said the General. "Good gracious, we told them to report and welcome; but we felt in duty bound to tell them that all they could get from an Indian mess-table gossip would not do them much good." People are so ready to jump at malicious conclusions that I must add a word of explanation. I do not mean to say that the standard of honor is not high in Germany, or that German officers are a whit less delicate than others in any country. It is the system that I am criticising, for when this sort of reporting is prescribed in the regulations of the service, the fact is lifted from the domain of private intercourse, and is not regulated by the ethics in common use in society. The conduct of Holstein seems to us to be open to a fair amount of criticism, but the facts must be judged, in order to be accurate and just, purely from a Prussian point of view. Poor Arnim! *Vit-ou jamais.* A man so utterly beneath his rôle! His extreme near-sightedness might be an excuse for his mislaying important papers, but it does not account for the character of his dispatches. He was neither lynx-eyed nor clairvoyant; and, in addition to his penchant for arguing with his chief over all points of difference, he covered pages of paper about such things as the, to him, disagreeable popularity of Prince Orloff—in which case Bismarck tried to console him—and with complaints about the very bad conduct of Mme. De Rothschild.

MME. DE ROTHSCHILD'S CASE.

This lady has just entered a very spirited complaint against making her doings momentous questions of state. And a new version of the affair has been given. The offense committed was not as serious as it is represented by Prussian diplomacy. I have before said that Mme. De Rothschild is a child of Alsace, and hence some strong feeling might be overlooked in her. At the dinner in question her seat was reached beside that of M. D'Arnim, seeing which the Baronne said with gayety and good humor to a friend: "The right of *option* exists no longer, but I am going to use it all the same," and the other *grande dame* laughed and humored the whim by taking the place. Instead of taking this pleasantly in good part, and treating it with indifference or with a *bon mot*, Count Arnim was greatly irritated. His face flushed with anger, and he sat morosely meditating means of vengeance during the rest of the dinner, the lady beside him paying no attention to him, but answering with great and somewhat affected politeness. The diplomatic notes treated this as a sort of *casus belli*, and when Arnim intimated as much to Due Decazes the latter laughed outright. Arnim flushed again and M. Decazes became serious, begging him not to think of writing to his Government about a few disobliging words from a young, handsome, and spirited Baroness. Arnim did not see things in that light, and insisted upon excuses; excuses were offered by everybody; and still he demanded excuses until MacMahon declared that he would not hear another word about so petty a piece of saloon gossip. This is the version now current in the saloons of Paris.

THE STRENGTH OF FAITH.

Having said so much about this matter, the attention of my readers may be beginning to wander, and if so, I will bring it back by saying that I have a very curious story to relate in this paragraph. Not long ago—which I use as a substitute for the old "once on a time"—the Captain of one of our great ocean steam-ships found, just after passing Sandy Hook, that he had a young blind girl among his passengers. Her whole appearance showed him that there was some mystery in the case, and he asked her how she came to be there, in the steerage, alone. The young lady told him her story. She was a Miss Kane, from New-England, I believe, who had, unfortunately, lost her eyesight. Being a Catholic she had heard of the wonderful cures performed through the agency of "Our Lady of Lourdes," and for many long, weary, half-hopeful, half-despairing months, she had been trying to raise the means for making the trip. At length she could not bear to wait any longer, and, unbeknown to her parents, she had slipped away to New-York where she had arrived with $69. She had taken the cheapest steerage fare, and felt assured that God would help her on to the Grotto of Lourdes, and that she should, by virtue of prayer, and the intervention of Notre-Dame de Lourdes, be once more restored to sight. The sailor's heart was touched by this simple story, and had he been on shore he would probably have given his purse to the girl on the spot. Her faith was sublime. Her religious fervor left no shadow of suspicion respecting the purity of her motives, or the truthfulness of her intentions. The weather-beaten sailor brushed his fingers several times across his eyes as he repeated the story in his own rudely eloquent way, and every one was interested. There was a French surgeon on board, who served in the Federal Army during the war, and he and his wife went at once to look after the girl. By paying the supplement they got her a comfortable room in the second cabin, and on landing brought her on with them to Paris. When leaving the city the surgeon went to the Embassy to solicit sympathy for Miss Kane. He happened to fall upon some kindly hearts who were there at the moment, and they freely took the case in hand. One went to see some members of the Paris clergy; another opened a subscription, putting himself down at the head for a handsome sum. This was only a week ago. Miss Kane will go to Lourdes and remain there as long as she pleases, and then she will go comfortably home with an American family. But meantime the gentlemen interested in her have sent her to the best occulist in Paris, who does not exclude all hope, and it is just possible that with his trifling aid Notre-Dame De Lourdes may effect a cure in the case of an American girl who showed herself so strong in the faith. Miss Kane is a true believer, a real *croyante*, and if we are ever again to put our trust in the potency of faith she must show herself on this occasion. Miss Kane's friends may hereby learn that she is safe and carefully tended; but I cannot bring my story to an end without warning others who may be led to follow this example that it will never succeed a second time. This time it was a novelty and accident, or Our Lady favored the attempt; but its repetition would prove a piece of blamable plagiarism, and entail misery, if not ruin, upon the person that tried it.

POLITICS AND THE OPERA.

In a parliamentary way there has been nothing important since I last wrote, the Assembly, fearing to injure the toy trade that will open during the holidays. The Deputies are making great efforts to restrain themselves on this account, and but for the safety-valve offered by the Arnim case I hardly know what would have happened. In the city that and the great snow-storm have occupied attention, but as these topics are growing stale we are moving in a body upon M. Halanzier of the opera. Every friend of art is expected to show himself on this occasion, and give the Director a cuff or a kick, and great men like about About are going in with cudgels, and demanding not only the demolition of Halanzier, but the confiscation of his contract by the State. M. About says that the Director of the opera thinks of paying expenses, and cares very little about "high art." He even made more money in the old opera than he lost at the Italiens, and must have as much as 800,000 francs in bank. And he has, after this, had the audacity to ask an increase of the price of admission. "See him turned out first," says About, who cries loudly for a State direction and an official administration of the opera in the interests of high art. The quarrel is just beginning to grow heated, and I shall have to refer to it again. Nilsson, who would not come to the opening at Halanzier's call, has said, "I will," to M. De Villemessant, and on the strength of this triumph the latter asks permission to take all the subscribers of the *Figaro* into the new opera-house. Halanzier replied that it would be specially lighted and heated for *Figaro's* subscribers, but M. Garnier, the architect, writes this morning to say that it will not. If the *Figaro* can offer a card of admission as a premium to subscribers there is no reason why the other journals should be refused, and this use of a State building could hardly be called in the interests of high art.

MISCELLANEOUS INTELLIGENCE.

There is another piece of gossip to which I shall barely refer, though others may take it up. The Russians in Paris complain bitterly of the treatment their Empress received in England, and say she had to pay for everything, even for her *bouillon* in the morning. The *dames d'honneur* also complain bitterly, and say they were badly lodged in the palace, having nothing but miserable straw beds to sleep upon. All this is contrasted with the treatment of the English Princes in Russia. The Prince of Wales escapes the general maledictions. He seems to have done all in his power and expended his own means liberally. He is pronounced "a royal good fellow," and the blame lies upon other shoulders. A more agreeable topic is the marriage of Mlle. Giulia Strakosch, daughter of Mr. Maurice Strakosch, and niece of Patti, Marquise De Caux, with M. Ernest Bourdillon, a young and rising advocate of the Cour d'Appel. The friends of the parties agree in calling it a splendid match—a love-match in the bargain, a thing not always found in France. M. Bourdillon is a handsome young fellow, of very polished manners, and will certainly make his mark. Mlle. Strakosch is a sweet and winning young lady, who inherits the musical talents of her parents. A very large and fashionable assembly assisted at the nuptial benediction yesterday at the Church of Saint Augustin.

A DIPLOMATIC PROMOTION.

The news that Col. Wickham Hoffman is about to leave us, having been promoted to the post of First Secretary at the Embassy of London, was not well received here, where, during eight years, he has won a host of warm friends.

THE HOME OF THE WILD DUCK.

SYNAPUXANT BEACH AND ITS ADVANTAGES AS A SHOOTING GROUND.

From an Occasional Correspondent.

OCEAN HOUSE, SYNAPUXANT BEACH, WORCESTER COUNTY, Md., Dec. 29, 1874.

I write from where the Ocean House is to be, and not where it is. "Atlantic Ocean City" is purely an American city. It exists only on paper and in the imagination of its founders. It is situated on the Synapuxant Beach, about twenty miles below Lewes, and as it is intended by its founders to be the seaside Summer resort of the Baltimoreans and the Winter resort of gunners and duck shooters from New-York and Philadelphia, perhaps it might be well to say a little of the location and of the character of the Synapuxant Bay.

This point is at present reached from New-York and Philadelphia by rail via the Delaware Railroad to Salisbury, and from there by the Wicomico and Pokomoke Railroad to the seaside. The last named company having during the past season extended their road from Berlin to the Beach, a distance of upward of six miles, and located and founded "Atlantic Ocean City."

The Old Dominion Steam-ship Company is pushing its connections on this peninsula, and doubtless in a few months more will have trains running in connection with the road to this point.

Of Synapuxant Beach much can be said in praise of its beauty, if beauty can be found in an unbroken line of fifty miles of sand-beach. Here and there occasionally heavy seas break over the beach and wash inlets to the bay, but the same storm which opens the inlet also closes it, so it is possible to drive with a horse and carriage from the Delaware line to Synapuxant Inlet, a distance of fifty miles. This beach, unlike most others which are found along the Atlantic coast, is absolutely a sand island arising out of the sea. Oftentimes not more than a few hundred feet wide, it never reaches a width of a mile and a half. On one side is the great ocean, and on the other a shallow bay, the water of which is almost always tranquil, and is the natural home of the wild duck and wild goose, while oysters of the very best quality are found in it in great abundance. This bay is in some places ten miles wide. In others it narrows down to two hundred yards, and is from two to five feet deep.

Wild celery grows along the west shore of the bay in large quantities, and upon this herb both the duck and the goose feed, and it is no uncommon sight to see acres of water literally alive with wild fowl. Here in this bay are to be found almost all the varieties of the wild duck known to the American hunter. The canvas-back duck and the mallard, the black duck and brent, the shuig, and the teal, all feed and breed here; and, in fact, the bays lying to the west of the Synapuxant Beach may really be called the home of the wild duck.

The accommodation for gunners cannot be described as luxurious; and if a gunner from the city comes to this bay expecting to find hot and cold water in his room and gas-light furnished him, he will fare sadly. But if he comes expecting to find no accommodation, he may fare better, as occasionally there are to be found places along the shore where very good accommodations can be had, at liberal prices.

During the full light of day it is almost impossible to get geese or ducks unless a very heavy storm rages; consequently, to be successful it becomes necessary to be on the beach—for here is the best shooting ground to be had—by daybreak, as the fowl at that hour fly low and within shooting distance, while the hazy atmosphere prevents the birds from seeing the gunners. Then all day long, if the weather is at all pleasant, there is scarcely a possibility of getting within shooting distance of any game. About nightfall shooting becomes good. The great disadvantage of night shooting, however, is the difficulty of finding the killed birds. A good retriever dog and a light flat-bottom boat are essential elements of success in hunting in this bay. When shooting from the beach, almost all the birds will fall either in the ocean or the bay. In many of the best places for shooting the beach is only a few hundred feet wide, and if a fowl is even badly wounded it is very likely to fly far enough to fall in the water, and with a boat it cannot always be reached, as the bay is full of shoals over which not more than four or five inches of water flow, and it might require an hour's work to get to the wounded bird, and hence the great advantage of a retriever dog. The advantage of shooting from the beach is, that the wild fowl go in the morning out to sea, beyond the reach of danger, to swim upon the waters of the ocean, and rest beyond the reach of their enemies' guns, and at nightfall they return again to feed along the bay shore.

I am going down the bay, and shall, in my next letter, treat of the means used by the gunners and trappers to deceive or decoy the wild fowl into their snares and traps. But before I close this, I want to say something of the extent of the duck and goose shooting waters of this peninsula. Commencing at Rehoboth Bay, in Delaware, a few miles below Lewes, there are, extending all along the Atlantic coast to the capes of Virginia, bays of shallow water, bounded on the east by a sand-bar and on the west by the lowlands of Eastern Maryland and Virginia. These bay are perhaps more than 250 square miles in extent, and all along them are "spungs" of low swampy lands upon which the wild fowl build their nests and bring forth their young. Nor is this all. There is along the western or Chesepeake side twice as much water extent, although not quite so shallow and not so good hatching ground. But there is undoubtedly, with proper protective laws, enough breeding grounds here to afford game for pleasant shooting for all the game-seekers of the three great cities. And this peninsula will be to them an object of more than passing interest.

JERSEY CITY ASSESSMENT MATTERS.

Corporation Counsel Lewis, of Jersey City, states that the article in THE TIMES, of Friday, represents too broadly his statements made to the Board of Finance, of that city, the day previous. What he stated to the board was that the case of Ahgens against the City of Newark, about which the board inquired of him, settled the principles on which assessments must be made, in order to have the court sustain them. The court held that assessments should be made according to benefits, and not confined by limitation to frontage, except as to flagging, and for that improvement the court held in a later decision that assessment on frontage is proper. The decision in the Ahgens case does not disturb sewer assessments which are made according to benefits, but only such assessments as are made on frontage, except sidewalk improvements. In Jersey City there are street improvements other than sewer improvements that are assessed according to benefit, as for example the Newark avenue improvement, which was expressly directed by resolution of the Board of Finance, under charter provision, to be assessed according to benefits. It is true that Commissioners of Assessments cannot make assessments in any other manner or on any other principle than that directed in the charter, under which they act; and as the court, on application, refuse to direct the Commissioners how to make an assessment differing from charter provision—the court's duty being purely judicial and not legislative—it follows that, as to all unpaid assessments made on frontage, (except as to sidewalks,) additional legislation will be necessary to enable the Commissioners of Assessments to make new assessments in such instances. The board to adjust unpaid assessments in Jersey City have revised, adjusted, and confirmed 101 street improvements since May 19, 1873, and the total amount of assessments thus confirmed is $2,331,687 60, and these assessments so adjusted the Supreme Court has thus far refused to review or disturb, although several applications have been made for the allowance of certiorari. These adjusted assessments have been made on the principle of benefits, and the court sustains them in thus refusing certiorari.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

POLITICS FOR YOUNG AMERICANS.

POLITICS FOR YOUNG AMERICANS. By CHARLES NORDHOFF. 12mo, pp. 259. New-York: HARPER & BROTHERS.

This is a good book. It shows a calm, thorough study of its subject. It is wise and manly. We wish that it had another title; for the one it bears somewhat misrepresents it. It is a good book for boys; but it is not what is generally understood by the phrase, a boy's book. On the contrary, although it is remarkably simple in style, and in the treatment of its subject, it might well be studied by half the mature men in the country. This, however, is not surprising; for even a story for boys, if it is really good of its kind, will almost always be found full of interest by men.

The author begins at the beginning, which is not, according to his view of the subject, the Constitution of the United States; that he regards as the end. His first chapter is on society. And the proper end of society, according to him, is the sacrifice of individual preferences, comfort, happiness, and sometimes even life itself, for the benefit of the whole. Men are so constituted that they must live together. This they cannot do without mutual help and mutual sacrifice. This is the key-note of the book. Society and selfishness are incompatible; to be a really good citizen, it is necessary to be a good man. Liberty and law are next considered. Liberty is enjoyed when a man may say and do what he pleases, when so doing does not injure his fellow-men. The province of law is to secure that liberty; to protect, at once, the individual and the commonwealth. Laws should be few in number and easily understood; they should give no special privileges; they should not restrain liberty of movement, of discussion, of occupation, or of trade. The tendency of legislation is to violate these simple and self-evident restraints upon it. Most modern reforms have consisted not in making new laws but in repealing old ones.

As to government, the position taken is that it is a necessary evil—made necessary by evil-minded and selfish men. If all men were honest and true and benevolent, there would be no need of government. Government in fact should be little more than a big policeman—its proper function is protective, not formative. "Where the average of virtue, intelligence, and self-restraint is high among a people, their Government needs to interfere but little in their affairs." Where that average is low, Governments are allowed to interfere more, and even to a certain degree vexatiously, because men will make many sacrifices of their own rights—even of their highest right, liberty—for the sake of peace, quiet, and stability. But our author is no advocate of feeble or careless government. He believes in making thorough work of what is undertaken; and, as a last resort, he believes in Vigilance Committees, whether the persons whom they take in hand are roughs or rulers. He is no advocate of the happy-go-lucky, all-will-come-right-in-the-end tone of public feeling; rather, he insists upon individual action and a sense of constant personal responsibility in every citizen. "Gross selfishness," he says, "such as leads men to abandon their political and public duties in order to devote their whole time and energies to their own affairs and pleasures, is a disgraceful and dangerous vice in a citizen of a republic." On reading this one cannot but reflect upon the very large proportion of the most intelligent, best educated, and most moral part of our people who are contaminated with disgraceful and dangerous vice. But, as Mr. Nordhoff insists so much upon this point, we must remind him of the truth that these persons were not thus viciously neglectful of their political duties until they found that it was quite useless for them to spend their time in attending to those duties. Going to primary meetings merely to see intelligence, education, and probity howled down, or perhaps driven out, by a mob of ignorant roughs, under the lead of a few coarse-brained, designing demagogues, is neither a very profitable nor a very pleasant way of passing time. It does not beget a very high respect for those institutions which he lauds so highly, and which, in their fitness for the people for whom they were designed, *are*, perhaps, with all the allowances that must be made, the most admirable frame of human government known to history. The trouble is that when the Constitution of the United States was formed, and the State Governments received their shape, it was supposed that there would always be a class of men, such as those then in power, who had leisure, weight of character, and sufficient fortune, to take a commanding position, and serve the public for very moderate salaries. The flood of emigration which has poured in upon us, increasing on the one hand our material wealth, and on the other the mass of ignorant voters to be used by designing political adventurers, was then not even dreamed of. We are attempting to administer the affairs of a country which has increased in wealth and population far beyond all precedent, and which has become, in fact, one nation by a system which was contrived for a federation of small, independent, and very sober, discreet, orderly, and frugal communities. We shall succeed, but the task is hardly so simple a one as Mr. Nordhoff seems to think it is.

And this brings us to the consideration of one of Mr. Nordhoff's propositions in regard to representative government, which will at least bear a little turning over and looking into before it is accepted without question. Insisting strongly upon the representative character of our Government, which, according to his view, makes it "not a Government of the ablest men," he lets off this somewhat startling proposition: "If there is anywhere a constituency composed mainly of foolish, or ignorant, or misguided people, they have a right to be heard." This is probably true; and, at any rate, in fact, it cannot be obviated in practice. But it is not exactly a matter over which to rejoice and be glad; and the right to a hearing, which Mr. Nordhoff presses so strongly, reduces a representative government to a government by delegates who are sent into the legislative body, not as representatives of their constituents, but merely as their mouthpieces, to vote as they have been instructed. The use of discussion, on which our author so much depends, in such cases would seem somewhat undiscoverable. For such men have no right to be convinced by argument. If they are turned from folly to wisdom, they no longer represent, in our author's sense, their constituents. Representative government of this kind might as well, or better, be carried on by town meetings and telegraph. What right has a man, who is elected for the purpose of voting in one way, to vote another, because he has listened to the talk of some men who talked, for the very purpose of opposing whom and whose interests he was sent to the legislature? He should resign, in order that his foolish constituents may have an opportunity of electing another delegate sufficiently foolish not to be convinced by reason. It was no such representative government as this that the fathers of the republic meant to found, but one in which the citizens chose men whom they were willing should represent, not their notions and their wishes merely, but *them*; in whose hands they were willing to place themselves, and by whose action they were willing to be bound. Mr. Nordhoff seems to us to incline entirely too much to the slavish doctrine of instruction, which strikes at the root of truly representative government, and which is at the bottom of many of the evils from which we are now suffering.

In his chapter on "Who Vote, and Why," Mr. Nordhoff presents a generally sound and correct view of the question of political suffrage; but he seems to be too much inclined to be satisfied with mere manhood suffrage and the rule of the majority under such a system. It was necessary that democratic representative government should pass through this stage; but surely it ought to be regarded only as one through which that kind of government shall pass to a higher and better form of expressing the will of the community. It is a rude and brutal contrivance—the crudest that could possibly be contrived—and a truly representative government is certainly possible, in which, while every man shall have an interest and a voice, the vote of a young, uneducated, propertyless man shall not be of just as much weight as that of a man who has experience, education, and—the proof of stability, if not of ability—property. A change for the better in this respect is at least worth trying for. Nor can we quite consent to the opinion that minors and paupers are not allowed to vote because they are dependent, and it is presumable that they would vote under coercion and not according to their independent judgment. On the contrary, they would be, and they should be, denied the suffrage, just as much, perhaps the more, if it were known that they would not vote under coercion, but according to their own unbiased judgment. They are not allowed to vote simply because it is thought best that in general they should not have the full privileges of citizenship. For the same reason women are not admitted to the ballot-box; and upon this point Mr. Nordhoff has a remark which, although he approaches it through his fallacy about dependence, touches the root of what is called the woman question. "Of late," he says, "there has arisen in this country and in England a vigorous discussion of the propriety of woman suffrage; at the same time that women have, in far greater numbers than ever before, become independent laborers—*which is a calamity to themselves and to society.*" Here Mr. Nordhoff's manly instincts and common sense, which are his safest guides, lead him to see at once to the bottom of this whole woman trouble, which is the diverting of woman from the functions which contribute to her happiness and to the well-being of society. The cry goes up, if women are laborers and producers, why should they not be paid and treated on the same footing as men? If they have business interests, why should they not, like men, have political power to protect those interests? (As to their lives and liberties, they are protected like those of all other persons in the countries in which they live.) The answer to all this is in Mr. Nordhoff's words that the fact that they have such interests, separate from their husbands and their children, or, if unmarried, from the families of which they are members, is a calamity to themselves and to society. The efforts of society should, therefore, be directed to remedy the calamity, and not to frame a political system for its perpetuation.

Upon the election of officers, Mr. Nordhoff's views strike us as particularly sound. He would reduce greatly the number of those now elected. These are his principles: "In order to enable the people to take an intelligent and real interest in politics it is necessary that they shall have to elect but a few persons." "The officers subordinate to the Executive ought not to be elected, but appointed by their chief." The election of Judges he regards as fatally pernicious to the well being of society. Upon political constitutions he has this sound observation: "The chief object of a constitution is to limit the power of majorities." This truth, too little considered, touches the radical difference between the British Constitution, as it is called, and our own. A majority in the British Parliament is practically omnipotent. The only restraint upon it is the royal prerogative, by which the needful royal assent may be refused to a bill which has passed both houses, and by which Parliament may be dissolved, and the question at issue thus referred directly to the electors. Under our constitutional system, both Federal and State, there are certain things which a majority, however great, cannot do, even with the consent of the chief executive officer.

As to property, the teachings of this book, strongly and simply democratic as they are, are as far as possible removed from anything like communism. Savings, being the result of labor and of self-denial, it is held that no other person can have so good a claim to the surplus in a man's possession as himself. It is also held that no part of the community has so vital an interest in the abundance, freedom, and security of capital as those who labor for wages. Usury laws of all kinds are rejected as unwise and unjust, and chiefly as injurious to the poor, who are borrowers, and who are benefited by the entire freedom and security of capital. Credit is useful to the poor, and not merely to the rich; and to the many, and not merely to those who have or who use credit. But bank notes, (although banking should be so free that any man who chooses should be allowed to set up a bank of issue,) should never be regarded as money. A bank note for ten dollars is merely evidence that some other person than the holder has the holder's ten dollars. It is not money; for if the money cannot be got for it, it is worthless. It is almost needless to say that a writer holding these common-sense views scouts the proposal to issue more "greenbacks," and advocates the speediest possible return to specie payments. No small part of the book is devoted to the inculcation of the strongest free-trade doctrines, which are advocated with such a thorough acquaintance with the subject that the Protectionists will have hard work to meet and overcome the author's arguments.

We need not examine Mr. Nordhoff's valuable little work more in detail to give our readers a just idea of its scope and its spirit. It is thoroughly American, but it is calm, moderate and unpretentious. The American eagle does not soar or scream in its pages. It seeks simply to set forth the nature of our political organization and to teach the political duties which that organization lays upon all who would be good and worthy citizens of the republic. It would be well if it were thoughtfully read by every man in the country. It closes fitly with a chapter upon our complex Federal and State system of government, which is followed by the Articles of Confederation, the Constitution of the United States, the Declaration of Independence, and Washington's Farewell Address. Its value is increased by a good index.

REMAINS OF LOST EMPIRES: Sketches of the Ruins of Palmyra, Nineveh, Babylon, and Persepolis, with some notes on India and the Cashmerian Himalayas By P. V. N. MYERS, A. M., associate author with H. M. MYERS, of "Life and Nature under the Tropics." New-York: HARPER & BROTHERS.

Mr. Myers' book impresses the reader as being a thoroughly conscientious work. What he started out to do, he has done carefully; and in this record of his travels he has not allowed purely personal experiences to divert the current of his narrative from its main object. We are not carried through a tedious recital of his start from Williams College, Ohio, his remarkable passage across the ocean in a Cunarder, and his travels through Europe to Jaffa, with observations, original and otherwise, on the barbarous countries he passed through on the way there. Mr. Myers is too old a traveler to afflict his readers with this commonplace trash; and he sensibly starts for the plains of Northern Syria from the gate of Damascus. The first point visited was Palmyra and it may be of interest to those whose conceptions of a desert are exclusively associated with scorching sands and burning suns, to hear that the three days' journey across the desert lying between Damascus and this ancient city, was made amid almost continuous snow, rain, and hail storms. Owing its creation to Solomon, and known in Scripture as that "Tadmor in the Wilderness," which he built, Palmyra, or the City of Palms, has a more striking and chequered history than even those more imposing cities, whose ruins break the dreary level of the Mesopotamian plains. After the brief mention of it by the Scriptural writer, the name disappeared for many centuries; it reappears as a free city on the disputed frontiers of the Roman and Parthian Empires; it became a Roman colony when Trajan pushed back the boundaries of the empire, and under this dominion it was beautified in a manner, which its ruins, imposing even now in their desolation and loneliness, attest, almost rivaling Rome itself. It was the forces drawn from Palmyra, which under Odenatus beat back the Persian Army, after the defeat and capture of the Emperor Valerian, and the wife of that General, the beautiful Zenobia, spread her own fame and the fame of her city through all the East. Her ambition wrought her ruin. Aspiring to set up an independent empire, she aroused the jealousy of Rome, which never forgave a rival. Twice defeated in open battle, she fled to Palmyra, and, after a long and obstinate siege, the city was taken by Aurelian. But it was spared till a revolt of its inhabitants again brought him back, and the Roman legions did their pertect work upon the city which they had rebuilt. They blotted it out as a habitation for man; and after the Mongol hordes had passed over these regions, its very site was forgotten, and only its name and history survived. When our travelers reached its magnificent ruins, a few miserable Arabs, burrowing like rats amid the débris of palaces and temples, were its only inhabitants. From Palmyra to Nineveh, from Nineveh to Babylon, and from Babylon to Persepolis, gave the author an opportunity to compare the ruins which the Roman, Assyrian, Chaldean, and Persian Empires had left. Massive stone—in pillar or obelisk, altar or wall—characterize the remains of Roman handiwork, but the Assyrian and Chaldean, having only the clay of the Mesopotamian plain, wrought in brick. The Persian used both materials, with stone predominating. The work of Layard on the "heaps" of Nineveh was examined with much interest, for the tunnels which he carried into them, open the way to the halls of Sennacherib, and the corridors wherein he inscribed his victories over the hosts of Israel. In Babylon, evidences of the investigations of Rawlinson were still distinguishable; and on the mooted point of the exact situation of the Tower of Babel, Mr. Myers is inclined to think M. Oppert is correct in assigning the Tower of Borsippa as the true tower of confusion. His speculations regarding the cause of the confusion of tongues seem to us faulty. It is doubtless true, as he points out, that Eastern tribes having originally a common tongue, when separated from each other only by a few miles of territory, speedily corrupt it so that they can scarcely understand each other; but in the case of the building of Babel, the thousands of workmen engaged were collected together on one spot. The conditions necessary to cause the confusion of tongues were exactly reversed. Undoubtedly, however, the true explanation of the Biblical narrative will eventually be wrought out on the line indicated by Mr. Myers; but possibly it would be well to wait till further investigations and study have thrown more light on the matter, before accepting as final an explanation based on the insufficient data now at command. From the Assyrian and Chaldean ruins to those of the Persian Empire is a true historical progression. Persepolis, the glory of the monarchs of Iran, presents a more imposing appearance than the vast earth-mounds of Nineveh and Babylon. Of the great palace of the kings, the great stone platform, the majestic stairway, up which our author rode on horseback; the colossal winged bulls, and many of the lofty pillars of the audience hall still remain to attest the former grandeur of the structure. These ruins lie in the way of the scribbling tourist, who has not forgotten to record his visit as is his wont. The great stone bulls Mr. Meyer found freely inscribed with the names of the Smiths, Browns, and Robinsons who had passed that way; and among these, in letters "as bold as the Ujiji expedition," appeared "Stanley, New-York *Herald*." A word as to the present aspect of the country in which the remains of these ruined empires are found. All of Syria and the water-shed of the Euphrates and Tigris is, of course, under Turkish rule. It exists but to blight. Wherever that wretched anacronism among modern nations rules, the land is cursed with barrenness, with the poverty which crushes out the life, with the avariciousness of the tax-gatherer. Nothing prospers, and official rapacity checks even the desire to improve. The Mesopotamian plains are rigid through their length and breadth with the remains of ancient watercourses, and the land was so fertile that ancient historians hesitated to tell of its marvelous fertility, so fabulous did it appear. But now the water-ways are choked, the land is a desert, the rivers unruffled by commerce, and the wretched Arabs which inhabit the country, huddle together in mud-huts and starve out their existence. "How is Babylon become a desolation among the nations! How art thou made a possession for the bittern and pools of water! how hast thou been swept with the besom of destruction. Sit on the ground, for there is no more a throne for thee, O daughter of the Chaldeans." The traveler from a new world unknown for ages after this prophesy was uttered, wanders over the land and sees its literal fulfilment. Mr. Meyers' book is another contribution to that literature which has dissipated those soft illusions in which the poets of nightingales and roses had invested the East. We see the East foretold of the Hebrew prophet, and seek amid its ruins the verification of history.

CONNECTICUT POLITICS.

MR. HARRISON DECLINES A RENOMINATION FOR GOVERNOR.

Hon. Henry B. Harrison has written the letter given below, declining to be again the Republican candidate for Governor of Connecticut. In publishing the letter the Norwich *Bulletin* says: "There are less than two weeks to the day of holding the State Convention, and in this time the name of a candidate who shall worthily fill the place on the ticket which Mr. Harrison would have filled had he consented, must be agreed upon, and we know of no gentleman better qualified than Hon. William Fitch, of New-Haven. If the Republicans of that city shall deem it best to present his name they may be sure that such action will be seconded by the Republicans of Eastern Connecticut." Mr. Harrison writes:

NEW-HAVEN, Jan. 6, 1875.

Joseph Selden, Esq., Chairman of the Republican State Central Committee:

DEAR SIR: This letter is addressed to you for publication in order to make known my purpose of withholding my name entirely from the consideration of the Republican State Convention in connection with their nomination for Governor. Such a nomination was conferred upon me last Winter under circumstances which left me neither the right nor the wish to decline it. Now, under different circumstances, while I remain, as always heretofore, steadfast in fidelity to the principles and the organization of the Republican Party, I am at liberty to claim, and do claim exemption from renewed service as a candidate for office. I cannot refrain from expressing here my gratitude to those of my fellow-citizens of Connecticut who honored me with their suffrages at the last election, and my high appreciation of the courteous treatment which was uniformly extended to me during my candidacy by our political opponents. Very truly yours,

H. B. HARRISON.

THE FASHIONS.

LATEST HINTS FROM PARISIAN SOURCES.

At this season, when so much time is devoted to the preparation of ball and reception dresses, and when ladies are often too much fatigued by the social pleasures they have partaken of, they are not usually inclined to bestow much care on their toilets for the shopping tours which must be made. Luckily, as we have already intimated, elaborate costumes are not in strictly good taste when the streets are well-nigh impassable. In consideration of this fact, our descriptions this week will be limited principally to suitable walking and shopping dresses.

A simple walking dress may be made of gray cachemire de l'Inde, trimmed with faille. The underskirt is made of faille; at the bottom there is a narrow plaited flounce, surmounted by a puffing shirred in three places; the headings are lined with gray faille, and form a shell-shaped trimming by being fastened down to the puff, thus showing the lining. The tunique is of cachemire, forms a rounded apron in front, and falls at the back in two long square flaps, over which are two large loops. The apron is trimmed with a plaited ruffle, surmounted by a bias band of faille; the flaps at the back are also trimmed with a bias band of faille, without the plaited ruffle. The corsage is of cachemire; it has a rounded basque in front, buttoning all the way down and finished with a cord covered with faille; the basque extends over the hips, and has a small pocket; at the back it forms a postillion, on which are placed loops of faille; the neck is finished with a cachemire ruching, which is taken down the front of the corsage, forming a revers. The sleeves have deep cuffs, lined and corded, top and bottom, with faille; these cuffs are divided through the middle by a bias band of faille; on the outside there are loops of ribbon.

A very serviceable walking suit may be made of velvet, trimmed with fur and galloon. The underskirt is plain; the over-skirt falls straight, and is bordered with fur; there is a trimming of galloon at the sides, placed on in two squares; inside of those squares are strips of galloon, and at the end of each strip is a ribbon bow; there are buttons down the front of this over-skirt. This suit has a scarf in shawl form; it is bordered with fur; above the border are three rows of galloon. The ne

DRY GOODS.

FURS

AT

EHRICHS',

NOS. 287 AND 289 8TH AV.,

BETWEEN 24TH AND 25TH STS.

ENORMOUS REDUCTION.

PRICES REDUCED TO LESS THAN COST OF THE SKINS. Our entire stock marked down without reserve. Every article warranted strictly as represented. Some but FINE FURS on hand. We invite examination.

OUR $85 Real Seal Sacques reduced to $53.
OUR $100 Real Seal Sacques reduced to $73.
OUR $150 Real Seal Sacques reduced to $125.
OUR $200 30-inch extra Seal Sacques reduced to $156.

OUR $30 Real Seal Sets reduced to $22 50.
OUR $50 Real Seal Sets reduced to $35.
OUR $75 Finest Shetland Seal Sets reduced to $58.

OUR $23 Real Mink Sets reduced to $18 50.
OUR $40 Real Mink Sets reduced to $25.
OUR $55 Real Mink Sets reduced to $40.

OUR $15 Real Lynx Sets reduced to $9.
OUR $10 Real Alaska Sable Muffs reduced to $6.
OUR $12 Real Siberian Squirrel Sets reduced to $8 50.

OUR $4 Polar Lynx Muffs reduced to $2 25.
OUR $8 French Sable Sets reduced to $3 50.
OUR $6 50 French Mink Sets reduced to $4 25.

OUR $6 and $4 50 Real Seal Skating Caps reduced to $3 50 and $2 50.
OUR $1 75 French Seal Caps, silk lined, reduced to 98 cents. Enormous reduction in Children's Sacques, Caps, Furs, Trimmings, &c.

Innumerable and Attractive Bargains

in SUITS, CLOAKS, DRESS TRIMMINGS, DRESS GOODS, MILLINERY GOODS, LADIES' UNDERWEAR, &c., &c., will be found throughout our entire establishment.

LADIES CAN REACH OUR STORE VERY CONVENIENTLY FROM EVERY PART OF THE CITY BY CONNECTING WITH 2D ST. CROSS-TOWN CARS.

EHRICHS',

NOS. 287 AND 289 8TH AV.,

BETWEEN 24TH AND 25TH STS.

R. H. MACY & CO.'S

GRAND CENTRAL ESTABLISHMENT,

The most advantageous place in New-York to do your shopping.

LACES, EMBROIDERIES,

WHITE GOODS, FURNISHING GOODS, and WOOLEN HOSIERY CLEARING at low prices, to make room for SPRING GOODS.

Goods delivered, free of expense, in this city, Brooklyn, and Jersey City.

14TH ST., 13TH ST., and 6TH AV.

SITUATIONS WANTED.

FEMALES.

THE NEW UP-TOWN OFFICE OF THE TIMES.

THE TIMES has established a new Up-town Branch Office for the sale of papers, the reception of advertisements and subscriptions, and the transaction of any business in connection with the paper. It is located at

No. 1,257 Broadway, between 31st and 32d sts.,

and is open daily, Sundays included, from 4 A. M. to 9 P. M.

COOK, &c.—BY A GERMAN YOUNG WOMAN, who is a good cook, washer, ironer, or general house-work; for City or country; has good City references. Can be seen at the Protestant Home Bureau, No. 138 6th av., above 10th st.

COOK.—BY A YOUNG WOMAN, AS GOOD COOK, good baker, and assist with washing and ironing; good City reference. Call at No. 107 West 126th st., third floor, back room.

CHAMBER-MAID.—BY A RESPECTABLE PROTestant girl; has good City reference from last employer. Call Monday and Tuesday, at No. 471 5th av.

CHAMBER-MAID, &c.—BY A YOUNG GIRL (Protestant,) as chamber-maid and waitress. Call at No. 4 Downing st.

DRESS-MAKING.—MISS BARBER, AN OLD EXperienced dress-maker, will go out by the day. No. 140 6th av., corner 42d st.

GOVERNESS, HOUSEKEEPER, &c.—BY AN English widow lady, a situation as governess, housekeeper, &c. Any one wanting an invaluable person of culture and refinement, with the best references, and willing to make herself useful, address DUNLUCE, Box No. 152 *Times* Office.

GENERAL SERVANT.—BY A STOUT, CAPABLE Scotch girl in City or country at moderate wages; is a good cook and laundress; not afraid of work. Call at No. 106 6th av., below 9th st., over shoe store.

HOUSEKEEPER.—A YOUNG PROTESTANT widow lady wants a position as first-class housekeeper, or would take charge of one child in a respectable, first-class family. Address S. R. W., Brooklyn Post Office.

LADIES' DIRECTORY, CORNER OF BROADway and 45th st.—A large number of capable, respectable servants, for City and country, at low wages. Employment is wanted for several ladies at nominal salaries.

Classes for ladies in the cooking school on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 10 A. M. till 2 P. M. $3 for ten lessons. First-class cooks sent out by the day, $2. The ladies request the co-operation of all housekeepers, and prompt replies from those to whom they apply for information.

LADY'S-MAID.—BY A FRENCH YOUNG WOMAN; highest months' references; experienced hair dresser and seamstress; by hand or machine; cut and fit; has a quiet and kind disposition; very neat and willing. Call at the Swedish Servants' Office, No. 108 East 27th st.

LAUNDRESS.—BY A SWEDISH GIRL, WITH THE best of references; is a thoroughly competent and experienced laundress; can do anything in her line; is strong, neat; will do some chamber-work. Call at the Swedish Servants' Office, No. 108 East 27th st.

LAUNDRESS.—BY A WOMAN AS A COMPEtent, first-class laundress; understands her business thoroughly; five years' best City reference. Call for two days at No. 525 6th av.

LADY'S MAID.—BY A FRENCH PROTESTANT person, with the best recommendations, as Lady's maid, or nurse for growing children; is an excellent seamstress and dress-maker. Call at 34 Clinton place.

NURSE.—BY A YOUNG, RESPECTABLE GERMAN girl, (Protestant,) in a private family, as child's maid, in the City. Inquire at No. 105 Orchard st.

SEAMSTRESS.—BY A NORWEGIAN GIRL AS first-class seamstress and chamber-maid, or nurse; the best of references for several years; can cut and fit; sews on any machine or by hand. Call at Swedish office, No. 108 East 27th st.

MALES.

COACHMAN.—BY A MARRIED MAN; THOROUGHly understands his business; no encumbrance; aged 30; first-class City reference. Address M. W., Box No. 310 TIMES UP-TOWN OFFICE, NO. 1,257 BROADWAY.

MEAT-CARVER.—IN A HOTEL OR RESTAUrant; the best of City reference. Address T. H. B., Box No. 200 *Times* Office.

USEFUL MAN.—BY A USEFUL YOUNG MAN, OF good address; would work for a moderate salary; has reference. Address H. B., No. 344 East 16th st.

WAITER.—BY A WELL ACCOMPLISHED, RESpectable, young colored man, as waiter in a private family or boarding-house; with colored help preferred; City reference. No. 619 8th av., corner 40th st.

WAITER.—BY A YOUNG MAN, (SWISS,) SPEAKing English, French and German, just arrived from Europe, as waiter in a private family; can give the best of reference. Address Waiter, Box 240 *Times* Office.

HELP WANTED.

THE REGISTERED TABLET COMPANY, No. 125 Broadway, under American Exchange National Bank, requires a gentleman competent to establish agents in New-York, Brooklyn, Jersey City, &c., for the sale of our Metallic Safety Checks. Agents wanted in every city of the United States. Apply to A. B. ELLIS, secretary.

WANTED—A BOY FROM SIXTEEN TO EIGHTEEN years old, living with his parents, in a Broadway fancy-goods store; references required. Address H. B., box No. 313 TIMES UP-TOWN OFFICE, NO. 1,257 BROADWAY.

WANTED—A GIRL FOR WASHING, IRONING, and plain cooking, at No. 104 West 13th st., with reference. Protestant preferred.

WANTED—FEMALE COMPOSITOR AT THE Church Printing House, No. 52 4th av.

ICE-CREAM.

HORTON'S

ICE-CREAM,

Being made from pure Cream, is most popular and best. $1 60 per Gallon.

CHARLOTTE RUSSE and JELLIES, delicious and cheaps Families, boarding-houses, parties, churches, fairs, &c., promptly supplied. Depots 305 4th av., 1,264 Broadway.

DRY GOODS.

BARGAINS

At Retail.

A. T. Stewart & Co.

WILL OFFER ON MONDAY, JAN 11, 1875,

Shawls, Suits, &c.

A SELECTED STOCK of REAL INDIA CAMEL'S HAIR SHAWLS at PRICES MUCH LOWER than those of previous seasons.

THE BALANCE of their stock of LADIES' READY-MADE PARIS SUITS, about ONE-HALF FORMER PRICES.

DIAGONAL SERGE SUITS, ALL COLORS, $15 each, worth $22.

SWISS AND ORGANDIE DRESSES, SUITABLE FOR BALLS AND PARTIES, from $13 up.

AN ELEGANT LINE of EVENING, RECEPTION, AND DINNER DRESSES, at a COMPLETE RANGE OF PRICES.

HANDSOMELY EMBROIDERED CASHMERE POLONAISES in PATTERNS, UNMADE, at $19, $20, and $28 per pattern, well worth $25, $28, and $35. CLOAKS and SACQUES IN EVERY VARIETY.

BOYS' CLOTHING of EVERY DESCRIPTION, including BLOUSE SUITS, ENGLISH WALKING SUITS, DRESS SUITS, PEA JACKETS, and OVERCOATS, at VERY LOW PRICES.

FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC TRIMMED HATS, FRENCH FLOWERS, GARNITURES, BRIDAL TROUSSEAUS, SEAL-SKIN CAPS, &c., &c., AT CORRESPONDINGLY LOW PRICES.

Furs, Laces, &c.

FOR THE BALANCE OF THE SEASON they will offer THEIR STOCK of FURS, &c., at GREATLY REDUCED PRICES.

POINT GAZE, APPLIQUE, AND CHANTILLY LACE SHAWLS,

FLOWERS, PICHUS, HANDKERCHIEFS, COIFFURES and BARBES,

PLAIN AND BEADED GUIPURE AND YAK LACES, AND TRIMMING LACES, AT EXCEEDINGLY ATTRACTIVE PRICES.

SPECIAL ATTENTION IS INVITED TO THEIR FULL LINES OF

Men's Furnishing Goods,

INCLUDING ALL THE PARIS AND LONDON NOVELTIES, EMBRACING

SCARFS, WINDSORS, CRAVATS, SILK MUFFLERS, LINEN CAMBRIC HANDKERCHIEFS, SUSPENDERS, PERFUMERIES, TOILET GOODS, AND SILK UMBRELLAS, IMPORTED EXPRESSLY FOR THEIR RETAIL SALES.

500 Dozen MEN'S BEST PARIS-MADE KID GLOVES, 1 and 2 Buttons, $1. $1 25, and $1 50 per pair.

SHIRTS, COLLARS, AND CUFFS MADE TO MEASURE AT SHORT NOTICE.

A CAREFUL EXAMINATION of the above WILL CONVINCE PURCHASERS that ONLY EXTRAORDINARY BARGAINS ARE OFFERED.

Broadway, 4th av., 9th, and 10th sts.

LARGE REDUCTIONS

IN PRICES OF

Silks and Dress Goods.

A. T. Stewart & Co.

HAVING DECIDED TO CLOSE THEIR PRESENT STOCKS OF SILKS, DRESS GOODS, &c., previously to opening of Spring Fabrics, WILL OFFER ON MONDAY, JAN. 11, 1875,

SILKS.

A LARGE ASSORTMENT OF LYONS COLORED DRESS SILKS, IN NEW, DARK, AND MEDIUM SHADES, from $1 50 per yard up.

LYONS BLACK GROS GRAIN SILKS at $1 50, $1 75, and $2 per yard up.

A LARGE VARIETY OF FANCY SILKS in BLACK AND WHITE and COLORED STRIPES and PLAIDS, from 75c. per yard upward.

50 pieces 22 and 24 inch COLORED TAFFETAS AND FAILLES in LIGHT EVENING SHADES.

SPECIAL.

100 pieces BONNET'S FIRST QUALITY BLACK SILKS, at LARGELY REDUCED PRICES.

A FINE SELECTION OF GRENADINE AND TARLATINE ROBES, elegantly embroidered in white and colors for BALL AND EVENING DRESSES, LESS THAN THE COST OF IMPORTATION.

DRESS GOODS.

50 Cases DRESS GOODS, from 12½c. per yard up.

20 Cases NEW LIGHT-COLORED CAMBRICS, at 8½c. per yard.

15 Cases WIDE PERCALES at 12 1-2c. per yard.

10 Cases Fine FRENCH FOULARD CAMBRICS at 25c. per yard; worth 35c.

50 Pieces FINE QUALITY 27-inch CAMEL'S HAIR SUITING, ALL WOOL, in GRAY MIXTURES, at 75c. per yard; value $1 25.

They have LARGELY REPLENISHED THEIR STOCK OF NOVELTIES IN SUITINGS and EXTRA QUALITY CAMEL'S HAIR CLOTHS.

AN IMMENSE VARIETY of the VERY BEST MATERIALS, SUITABLE FOR MOURNING, PRICES EXCEEDINGLY LOW.

A VISIT OF INSPECTION WILL AMPLY REPAY.

Broadway, 4th av., 9th and 10th sts.

INSURANCE.

CONTINENTAL

LIFE INS. CO. OF NEW-YORK.

Accumulat. Assets Jan. 1, '74	$6,539,325
Surplus Jan. 1, 1874	$671,641
Annual Income	$2,932,601
Amount of ins. in force	$57,791,483

M. B. WYNKOOP, Vice Prest. L. W. FROST, Prest.
S. C. CHANDLER, Jr., Act'y. J. P. ROGERS, Sec.

ELECTIONS.

NEW-YORK JUVENILE ASYLUM.—TO SUPply the vacancies occasioned by the expiration of the term of service of eight directors of the New-York Juvenile Asylum, an election will be held on MONDAY, the 11th inst., at the House of Reception, No. 61 West 13th st. The polls will be open from 4 to 5 o'clock in the afternoon. WM. C. GILMAN, Secretary.

EUFORNIA FEMALE COLLEGE, Jan. 9, 1875.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE STOCKholders of this College will be held at No. 489 5th av. on MONDAY EVENING, Jan. 11, at 8 o'clock, when an election will be held for five Trustees.

By order of the Board of Trustees.

J. IRVING BURNS, Secretary.

ELECTION NOTICE.—A MEETING OF THE Stockholders of the Central Virginia Copper and G. M. and S. Company, for the election of five Trustees, will be held on WEDNESDAY, the 20th inst., at 4 o'clock P. M., at the office of the company.

E. E. CORLISS, Secretary.

SHIPPING.

FOR SAVANNAH, GA.

THE FLORIDA PORTS, AND THE SOUTH AND SOUTH-WEST.

GREAT SOUTHERN FREIGHT AND PASSENGER LINE, CENTRAL RAILROAD OF GEORGIA, AND ATLANTIC AND GULF RAILROAD.

FOUR STEAM-SHIPS PER WEEK. TUESDAYS, THURSDAYS, AND SATURDAYS.

LEO, Capt. DANIELS, TUESDAY, Jan. 12, from Pier 16 East River, at 3 P. M.

MURRAY, FERRIS & CO., Agents, No. 62 South st.

GEN. BARNES, Capt. CHESMAN, THURSDAY, Jan. 14, from Pier No. 43 North River, at 3 P. M.

WM. R. GARRISON, Agent. No. 5 Bowling green.

SAN SALVADOR, Capt. NICKERSON, SATURDAY, Jan. 16, from Pier No. 43 North River, at 3 P. M.

WM. R. GARRISON, Agent. No. 5 Bowling green.

GULF STREAM, Capt. FAIRCLOTH, SATURDAY, Jan. 16, from Pier No. 12 North River, at 3 P. M.

E. LOWDEN, Agent, No. 93 West st.

Insurance by this line ONE HALF PER CENT.

Superior accommodation for passengers.

Through rates and bills of lading, in connection with Central Railroad of Georgia, to all points.

Through rates and bills of lading in connection with the Atlantic and Gulf Railroad and Florida steamers.

GEORGE YONGE, Agent, Central Railroad of Georgia, No. 409 Broadway.

GREAT SOUTHERN FREIGHT AND PASSENGER LINE FOR CHARLESTON, S. C., THE FLORIDA PORTS, AND THE SOUTH AND SOUTH-WEST, SAILING EVERY WEDNESDAY AND SATURDAY, AT 3 P. M., from Pier No. 29 North River.

MANHATTAN, Capt. M. S. WOODHULL, Wednesday, Jan. 13.

CHARLESTON, Capt. J. SERRY, Saturday, Jan. 16.

Superior accommodations for passengers.

☞ Insurance by this line ONE-HALF PER CENT.

Goods forwarded free of commission.

Passage tickets and bills of lading issued and signed at the office of

JAMES W. QUINTARD & CO., Agents, No. 177 West st. (corner of Warren,) Or W. P. CLYDE & CO., No. 6 Bowling green.

Through freight tariffs. Passage tickets by all routes and to all points in the South and South-west, and further information can be obtained at the office of

BENTLEY D. HASELL, General Agent Great Southern Freight Line, No. 317 Broadway.

ATLAS MAIL LINE.

BI-MONTHLY SERVICE TO HAYTI, VENEZUELA, CURACOA, MARACAIBO, JAMAICA, AND COLUMBIA. First-class, full-powered iron screw steamers, from Pier No. 51 North River:

ANDES.....Jan. 9,

For NASSAU, PORT-AU-PRINCE, AUX CAYES, JACMEL, LAGUAYRA, PUERTO CABELLO, CURACOA, and MARACAIBO.

ATLAS.....Jan. 18,

For NASSAU, KINGSTON, SANTA MARTHA, and SAVANILLA and CARTHAGENA.

.....Jan. 27,

For GONAIVES, PORT-AU-PRINCE, AUX CAYES, PUERTO CABELLO, LAGUAYRA, CURACOA, and MARACAIBO.

ATLAS.....Feb. 5,

For NASSAU, KINGSTON, Savanilla, and Carthagena.

PIM, FORWOOD & CO., Agents, No. 56 Wall and No. 59 Pine st.

FOR ST. THOMAS AND BRAZIL.

THE UNITED STATES AND BRAZIL MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

Regular mail steamers SAILING 23D OF EVERY MONTH, making close connections at RIO DE JANEIRO with the English and French Mail Steam-ships MONTEVIDEO and BUENOS AYRES.

The splendid steam-ship HERMACK, Capt. W. WRAY, will sail from PIER No. 43 NORTH RIVER, on SATURDAY, Jan. 23, at 3 o'clock P. M., calling at ST. THOMAS, PARA, PERNAMBUCO, Bahia, and RIO DE JANEIRO, going and returning.

First cabin passage to St. Thomas, $100; to Para, $150; to Pernambuco, $200; to Bahia, $210, and to Rio de Janeiro, $225, gold. Steerage half price. EXCURSION TICKETS, good for six months, at three-quarters of above rates. Freights greatly reduced.

Direct communication by rail via St. Thomas.

Apply to WM. R. GARRISON, No. 5 Bowling green.

NEW-YORK, HAVANA AND MEXICAN MAIL S. S. LINE Steamers leave Pier 3 North River at 3 P. M., as follows

FOR HAVANA DIRECT.

CITY OF NEW-YORK.....Thursday, Jan. 14
CITY OF MERIDA.....Tuesday, Jan. 26

FOR VERA CRUZ AND NEW-ORLEANS, calling at Havana, Progreso, Campeachy, Tuspan and Tampico.

CITY OF MEXICO.....Tuesday, Jan. 26
CITY OF HAVANA.....Tuesday, Feb. 16

For freight or passage apply to

WM. P. CLYDE & CO., No. 6 Bowling green.

ALEXANDRE SAGORY & SONS, No. 33 Broadway.

Steamers will leave New-Orleans Jan. 30 and Feb. 20, for Vera Cruz and all the above ports.

NEW-YORK AND HAVANA DIRECT MAIL LINE.

These first-class steam-ships will sail at 3 P. M., from Pier No. 13 North River, (foot of Cedar st.,) for Havana direct, as follows:

COLUMBUS, Capt. E. C. REED, Tuesday, Jan. 12.
CRESCENT CITY, Capt. CURTIS Thursday, Jan. 21.

For freight or passage (having unsurpassed accommodations) apply to

WM. P. CLYDE & CO., No. 6 Bowling green.

McKELLAR, LULING & Co., Agents in Havana.

STEAM-BOATS.

FOR NEW-HAVEN, HARTFORD, AND THE NORTH.—Steamers leave Peck slip for New-Haven at 3 and 11 P. M., connecting with road.

FOR BRIDGEPORT AND ALL POINTS ON Housatonic and Naugatuck Railroad.—Fare, $1. Steamers leave Catharine-slip at 11:30 A. M.

INSTRUCTION.

Collegiate Institute,

(NO. 40 WASHINGTON SQUARE)

GEO. W. CLARKE, Ph. D., Principal.

Prepares pupils of all ages for business or college.

DOLBEAR'S COMMERCIAL COLLEGE No. 1,193 Broadway, open day and evening. Young men prepared practically for business in one quarter. Private desks can now be secured.

AN ELEGANT PIANO-PLAYER, WITH A portion of his time unoccupied, will give one month's lessons free; if satisfied, may continue at very reasonable rates. Address BERLIN, Box No. 268 TIMES UP-TOWN BRANCH OFFICE, NO. 1,257 BROADWAY.

PACKARD'S BUSINESS COLLEGE.—NO. 805 Broadway, corner 11th st.; individual instruction; students can enter at any time during the year with equal advantage. Call or send for circular.

S. S. PACKARD & CO.

PAINE'S, NO. 62 BOWERY.—UP TOWN NO. 1,275 Broadway.—Young men and boys taught book-keeping, business affairs; foreigners English; backward persons privately. Writing lessons, $3. Ladies' department.

HOME INSTITUTE, TARRYTOWN, N. Y. —An English and French boarding and day school for young ladies and children. Miss M. W. METCALF, Principal.

THE ELMIRA FEMALE COLLEGE OFFERS superior advantages in all departments at very moderate charges; next session opens Feb. 2. Address Rev. A. W. COWLES, D. D., President, Elmira, N. Y.

FRENCH CONVERSATION, BY A PARISIAN gentleman; City references; ten weeks, three lessons weekly, $25; at pupil's, $36. Address FRENCH, TIMES UP-TOWN OFFICE, No. 1,257 BROADWAY.

A YALE GRADUATE DESIRES TO GIVE private instruction; the best references offered. Address R., No. 125 East 27th st.

FRENCH LANGUAGE BY PROF. E. JEANRENAUD, No. 278 6th av.—Thirty hours, at my house, $35; at pupil's residence, $45.

CHARLIER INSTITUTE, NO. 108 WEST 59TH st.—Boarding and Day School; special preparation for college; new and splendid building.

MRS. JONSON AND MISS JONES' ENGLISH, French, and German boarding and day school for young ladies and children, 13 East 31st st., New-York.

MRS. J. T. BENEDICT'S BOARDING AND DAY School for young ladies and children, reopened Oct. 1, at No. 7 East 42d st.

NYACK HOME INSTITUTE, FOR BOTH sexes, reopens Jan. 4; references, patrons and clergymen. Mr. and Mrs. D. P. LEE, Principals.

$250 FOR TEN MONTHS.—INSTITUTE for young boys. E. HINDS, A. M., Hempstead, Long Island.

DREW LADIES' SEMINARY, CARMEL, N.Y.—The Spring Session of nineteen weeks opens Feb. 17. Send for circular. GEO. C. SMITH, A. M.

IRVING'S SCHOOL OF ART.—N. Y. SOCIETY Library, 67 University place. Drawing, water color and oil painting. Evening classes Wednesdays and Saturdays

MILITARY BOARDING SCHOOL, WHITE Plains, N. Y. O. R. WILLIS, Ph. D., Principal.

ANTHON GRAMMAR SCHOOL, NO. 252 Madison av., 9:30 A. M. to 2:30 P. M.

CLAVERACK College and H. R. Inst., at Claverack, N. Y. 20 instructors. ALONZO FLACK Ph. D., Pres.

PEEKSKILL (N. Y.) MILITARY ACADEMY.—New building and gymnasium. $400 per annum.

TEACHERS.

A CAREFUL AND THOROUGH TEACHER of German (native) and French would like more pupils; terms moderate; a reduction to classes. Refers to present pupils. Call on or address GERMAN TEACHER, No. 304 East 52d st.

A YOUNG LADY, FROM NORTH OF GERMANY, gives lessons for thirty cents per lesson. Address TEACHER OF GERMAN, No. 222 West 40th st.

MISCELLANEOUS.

PERFECTION!

BOKER'S BITTERS.

Beware of Counterfeits and Imitations.

STATIONERY.

FRANCIS & LOUTREL, No. 45 MAIDEN lane.—Blank-Books, Printing, Stationery, Diaries for 1875. Your custom solicited.

FRANCIS & LOUTREL, No. 45 Maiden lane.

HORSES AND CARRIAGES.

THE NEW UP-TOWN OFFICE OF THE TIMES.

THE TIMES has established a new Up-town Branch Office for the sale of papers, the reception of advertisements and subscriptions, and the transaction of any business in connection with the paper. It is located at

No. 1,257 Broadway, between 31st and 32d sts.,

and is open daily, Sundays included, from 4 A. M. to 9 P. M.

GENTLEMEN WANTING THEIR HORSES neatly clipped in their own stables, can have them done with Mahony's horse-clipping Machine at $6 each by addressing JAMES McSWEENEY, No. 839 7th av., corner 55th st.

COUNTRY BOARD FOR HORSES.—FOURteen miles from the City, near Englewood, N. J.; 100 acres elegant pasture; finest stables; water in stalls; horses taken and returned to City; terms moderate. PICKERT & CO., No. 95 Water st.

TO LIVERY STABLE KEEPERS.—TO LEASE, plot (50x186 feet) No. 263 West 26th st., with moderate building loan. J. W. HAMERSLEY, No. 255 5th av.

BOARDING AND LODGING.

THE NEW UP-TOWN OFFICE OF THE TIMES.

THE TIMES has established a new Up-town Branch Office for the sale of papers, the reception of advertisements and subscriptions, and the transaction of any business in connection with the paper. It is located at

No. 1,257 Broadway, between 31st and 32d sts.,

and is open daily, Sundays included, from 4 A. M. to 9 P. M.

MANSION HOUSE,

Hicks st., BROOKLYN.

The patrons of the Mansion House are respectfully informed that an elegant elevator for the accommodation of the guests has just been completed, by the aid of which the rooms on all floors are easily reached, and the comforts of this comfortable home much increased. A few desirable rooms for families and single gentlemen can be obtained at a reasonable rate.

EDWIN R. YALE.

A PRIVATE FAMILY HAVING A LARGE HOUSE, A 736 st., near 5th av., would rent choice of rooms, with first-class board, to a gentleman and wife, or a party of three or four; no other boarders; a fair price expected. References. Address Box No. 2,672 P. O.

EAST 9TH ST., NO. 56, BETWEEN BROADway and University place.—Two large square rooms, nicely furnished, with all first-class conveniences; also one small room; at moderate rates; breakfast if desired; references exchanged.

BROOKLYN BOARD.—NO. 229 PLACE, BROOKlyn, second floor front room, in private family, for lady and gentleman; hot and cold water, house newly and elegantly furnished, first-class table; no children taken; references given and required.

WINCHESTER HOUSE, (EUROPEAN PLAN) corner Broadway and 31st.—This hotel is newly fitted in elegant style, embracing all the modern improvements, hot and cold water, baths, &c. Prices reduced.

A FRONT ROOM AND ALCOVE HANDsomely furnished, double closets, &c., with first-class board, in a small family; references. No. 14 East 32d st., between 5th and Madison avs.

NO. 39 EAST 16TH ST., BETWEEN BROADway and University place.—Newly-furnished rooms, en suite or singly; desirable rooms on parlor floor; day boarders taken.

NO. 31 WEST 16TH ST.,

Between 5th and 6th avs. To let, an entire second floor, handsomely furnished; with or without private table; also other rooms; highest references.

TWO GENTLEMEN OR GENTLEMAN AND wife can obtain good board with all the comforts of a home; terms, $7 per week, each. No. 58 West Washington place, (private family.)

A PRIVATE FAMILY ON LEXINGTON AV. near 28th st., would let with board their second-story front room, (alcove,) with ample closets; every convenience. Address Box No. 4,837 Post Office.

5TH AV., BETWEEN 11TH AND 12TH STS. Desirable suites of apartments on first and second floors, with private table, on moderate terms, at No. 45 5th av. References exchanged.

MARLBOROUGH HOUSE, AMERICAN PLAN, corner 28th st. and 6th av., Murray Hill.—A few elegant suites and single rooms; rates moderate.

W. L. FISH.

NO. 113 WEST 34TH ST.—A LARGE, HANDsomely-furnished front room on second floor, southern exposure, with board; small room on fourth floor. Reference exchanged.

NO. 116 EAST 19TH ST.—ELEGANTLY-FURnished rooms on second floor, with or without private table; also, fourth floor front room and bed-room; references.

FIFTH AV., NO. 314.—SINGLE ROOM FOR gentlemen on fourth floor, with board; references exchanged.

NO. 354 WEST 23D ST.—A FINE LARGE second-story front alcove room to let, with board; all conveniences; references exchanged.

NO. 63 PARK AV., NEAR 38TH ST.—HANDsome suite of front rooms to let, with board; also, single room in a private house; references.

TO LET—HANDSOMELY-FURNISHED ROOMS, with first-class attendance; board if desired. Apply to E. A. DAILEY, No. 588 6th av.

NO. 257 4TH AV., NEAR 20TH ST.

Large, handsomely-furnished rooms for gentlemen; breakfast if desired; terms very low.

NO. 35 WEST 37TH ST., BETWEEN 5TH AND 6th avs.—Desirable rooms to let, with or without private table; also rooms for single gentlemen.

HANDSOMELY-FURNISHED SUITE OF apartments to let in Stevens House, 27th st., suitable for gentleman and wife. Ask for suite No. 91.

NO. 4 WEST 22D ST.

To let, with board, double and single rooms for gentlemen; a few table boarders can be accommodated.

NO. 77 WEST 45TH ST.—PLEASANT ROOMS to let, with board, on second and third floors, for families or gentlemen; references exchanged.

NO. 164 5TH AV.—A FIRST FLOOR, FURNISHED, to let: also, single rooms, with bath, &c.; breakfast if desired; references.

TO LET.—FURNISHED ROOMS, WITH BOARD, having southern exposure; house first-class; references. No. 230 West 39th st.

PLEASANT FURNISHED ROOMS, WITH OR without board, at No. 124 East 16th st., near Irving place.

FIFTH AV., NO. 297.—A SUITE OF ROOMS to let, with or without private table; references required.

NO. 40 WEST 21ST ST.—A LARGE ROOM ON second floor to let with board.

BOARD WANTED.

A PARTY OF GENTLEMEN WISH, WITH aboard, three large furnished rooms, inside rooms will not answer, between 14th and 30th sts., 4th and 6th avs. preferred; replies, to be noticed, must state full particulars and (moderate) terms. Address TRIO, Box No. 189 *Times* Office.

WANTED.—FIRST-CLASS BOARD FOR THREE young gentlemen in a private family; sitting-room required; price, about $40 per week; references exchanged. Address T., Post-office Box No. 2,386, stating full particulars. No boarding-house keepers need apply.

WANTED—BY AN ELDERLY COUPLE, ROOMS ON second floor with plain board, in a small private family preferred, between 3d and 6th avs. and 20th and 35th sts.; permanent if suited. Address MERCHANT, Box No. 147 *Times* Office.

A BOARD WANTED FOR A GENTLEMAN and wife; would prefer to locate between 4th and 14th sts., Broadway and 7th av. Address, stating price and accommodations, HARDWARE, Box 1,134 Post Office.

A FIRST-CLASS PIANIST DESIRES PLAIN table board in exchange for instruction. Address GENTLEMAN, Box No. 264, TIMES UP-TOWN OFFICE, NO. 1,257 BROADWAY.

BOARD AND TWO ROOMS WANTED—FOR gentleman, wife, and two small children; vicinity of 14th st. Address EVARTS, Box No. 200 *Times* Office.

WINTER RESORTS.

ROYAL VICTORIA HOTEL.

NASSAU, N. P., BAHAMAS. T. J. PORTER, Proprietor. For full information, address J. LIDGERWOOD & CO., No. 758 Broadway, N. Y. Steamers sail every two weeks.

PROPOSALS.

SEALED PROPOSALS FOR BUILDING BURDS on new Piers, Nos. 43 and 46 North River.—Sealed proposals for doing this work will be received at the office of the Department of Docks until 11 o'clock A. M. of WEDNESDAY, Jan. 20, 1875.

For full information see the *City Record*. Copies for sale at No. 2 City Hall.

SEALED PROPOSALS FOR BUILDING FOUR DECK SCOWS.—Sealed proposals for doing this work will be received at the office of the Department of Docks, until 11 o'clock A. M., of MONDAY, Jan. 11, 1875.

For full information see the *City Record*. Copies for sale at No. 2 City Hall.

3,000 BBLS. FLOUR.—PROPOSALS DEpartment of Public Charities and Correction, until Jan. 18, 1875. See *City Record*.

FURNITURE.

T. G. SELLEW,

DESKS,

OFFICE AND LIBRARY FURNITURE, No. 103 Fulton st., FINE CYLINDER DESKS.

WEEKLY OR MONTHLY PAYMENTS for FURNITURE, CARPETS, and BEDDING, at B. M. COWPERTHWAITE & CO.'S, Nos. 155 and 157 Chatham st. An immense stock and low prices.

AUCTION ROOMS, NO. 190 3D AV., BEtween 17th and 18th sts.—If parties in want of second-hand furniture will inspect the stock of JAMES GRAHAM they will find every description of household articles.

ANY PARTY BREAKING UP HOUSEKEEPING may hear of a purchaser for furniture by addressing A. B., Box No. 299 UP-TOWN TIMES OFFICE, No. 1,257 BROADWAY.

FOR SALE—AT A VERY LOW PRICE, A COMplete set of parlor furniture, in crimson satin. Apply at No. 190 Water st.

AMUSEMENTS.

THE ANNUAL GRAND BALL

IN AID OF THE

NEW-YORK INFANT ASYLUM,

WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE

Academy of Music, Jan. 14, 1875.

Tickets, $5 each; can be obtained from the Managers, and private boxes may be procured on application to Mrs. CLARENCE LYMAN COLLINS, No. 34 West 38th st., before 11 o'clock A. M., and from 5 until 8 o'clock P. M.; also at the Academy of Music, upon application to Mr. D. KINGSLAND.

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Mrs. Gen. W. S. Hancock,
Mrs. Yznaga del Valle,
Mrs. Samuel C. Hyde,
Mrs. Charles C. Leeds,
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EDWARD S. STOKES.

HIS APPLICATION TO GOV. TILDEN FOR PARDON.

REVIEW OF THE EVIDENCE ADDUCED IN THE LAST TRIAL—HE ACCUSES THE JURY OF PREJUDICE—STATEMENT OF THE FOREMAN COMMENDING THE APPLICATION.

On the 16th of December last, an application was received by Gov. Dix, from the father of Edward S. Stokes, asking for the pardon of the latter. In reply, his Excellency stated that "on the calculation made, the time during which Stokes had been imprisoned would not reach that of his sentence until January 6, at which time he would have vacated his office; and if there were no other objection to his action in the case, that would be insuperable." Accordingly Stokes prepared a new and formal application, in the form of a petition, and submitted it to Gov. Tilden last Wednesday. The petition was in substance, as follows: The petitioner avers that he was arrested on January 6, 1872, and lodged in the Tombs prison, upon the charge of killing James Fisk, Jr., at the Grand Central Hotel, in this City. An indictment having been prepared against him in July, 1872, he was brought to trial, but the jury, being unable to agree, was discharged, and the prisoner was again remanded to the Tombs. In December, 1872, he was again placed on trial, and convicted of murder in the first degree. Sentence was pronounced, but its execution was stayed by the interposition of proceedings instituted by his counsel to procure a review of the trial. Upon the trial being examined by the Court of Appeals it was adjudged by a unanimous vote in June, 1873, "That for errors in rejecting competent evidence offered by the prisoner, and in receiving incompetent evidence against him, and in the part of the Judge's charge to the jury excepted to, the judgment must be reversed and a new trial ordered." The prisoner was placed on trial for the third time in October, 1873, and the jury returned a verdict of manslaughter in the third degree, whereupon the Court sentenced him to four years' confinement in the State Prison, which he was still undergoing. The purpose of this statement was to appeal to Gov. Tilden to remit the remainder of the term of imprisonment of the petitioner, and to secure to him those rights and privileges of citizenship of which he had been deprived. The petition next invites attention to the verdict found against him of manslaughter in the third degree. This offense is thus defined by the statute to be "the killing of another in the heat of passion without a design to effect death," and says: "You will perceive by the verdict that the jury found that I had, first, no intent to kill; second, that my heart was free of all willful premeditation; and third, that the act was committed in a heat of passion, which phrase means, according to the well settled understanding of the law—and the verdict of the jury must so be interpreted—that my 'passions' were aroused by an assault made upon me with violence."

It is a rigid principle of criminal jurisprudence, says the petitioner, that no mere words of reproach, however grievous, are sufficient to free a party killing from the guilt of murder, nor, in fact, anything short of an actual assault, sufficient to mitigate the offense from murder to manslaughter. When, therefore, the jury in his case declared that he had killed Fisk "in the heat of passion," they decided, in the opinion of the prisoner, according to the only rules of interpretation that could be invoked, that Fisk had assaulted him with violence, and that he had hastily resented it on the spot. After reviewing the reports published by the press on the morning after the homicide, and characterizing as false the story that he had followed Fisk's carriage to the Grand Central Hotel on the day of the unfortunate occurrence, the petitioner states that this slander alone convicted him of murder on his second trial, although it had appeared in that legal drama not in the tangible form of legal evidence, but in the shape of ghostly sentiment, which had crept into the court-room, and, in the opinion of the prisoner, had insidiously instilled into the minds of the jurors a poisonous prejudice which no human testimony could overcome.

The petitioner alleges that on his third trial he had demonstrated that he was accidentally in the hotel on the afternoon in question, and was not and could not have been aware that Fisk intended to call there on the same occasion. The evidence of his coachman was adduced to show that the petitioner had not given him any instructions to follow any particular route, or to follow any carriage. The petitioner next states that he had no knowledge that Fisk would go out on the afternoon in question, and did not know that the latter was in the habit of visiting the Grand Central Hotel. After reviewing the evidence adduced at the trial, the petitioner states that independent of the facts already presented there is another distinct ground upon which he solicits the Executive intervention, which is, that his imprisonment had already exceeded in duration the time prescribed by the law for the offense of which he had been convicted, after deducting the usual commutation accorded by the Legislature to every prisoner of good deportment. In conclusion, the petitioner states that he had not attempted to operate upon the feelings or sympathy of his Excellency by any recital of the terrible sufferings which he had undergone, as he thought, illegally and unjustly, nor had he alluded to the fact that his incarceration in the Tombs had resulted in completely undermining his physical system, and whatever the decision of his Excellency might be, it would be regarded as just and honorable by the petitioner.

The petition was accompanied by a statement made by Thomas W. Bartholomew, the foreman of the jury that convicted Stokes of manslaughter in the third degree, in which he says that he "cheerfully joins in commending to the favor of the Governor the application for pardon made by Edward S. Stokes." As foreman of the jury on the last trial of the petitioner, he says he was enabled to gain a full and complete knowledge of the history of the facts and circumstances surrounding the eventful tragedy in which Stokes was concerned. The verdict which was rendered, he says, was the result of a compromise, a great number of the jurors, including himself, having been in favor of absolute acquittal. But in view of the fact that the case had already occupied the courts for nearly two years, the jurors believed that the public interest demanded that, if possible, they should agree upon a verdict which, while it did not fully satisfy the foreman, he says, he nevertheless acquiesced in, as it placed the case upon a basis for the prisoner which he believed would be preferable to a disagreement. The prosecution, he said, relied solely upon the evidence of Thomas Hart and John Redmond, two young men employed at the Grand Central Hotel, to convict the prisoner of murder. This evidence the foreman said he considered entirely unreliable and unsatisfactory. Hart had testified that he had studied for six months the story he was to tell upon the witness stand, and it was quite evident that he did so to perfection, for it had been repeated almost without variation, and was, in the opinion of the foreman, "in every way stereotyped." In examining as to the truthfulness of the latter, he referred to the evidence for the people. Mr. Charles G. Hill, a merchant of Troy, had testified that he was standing near the place where Fisk was shot. Almost simultaneously with the firing he saw Stokes ascend the staircase. The witness had testified that Stokes was alone, and that it would been impossible for Hart to present without the knowledge of the witness. It had also been proved that Hart's confederate, Redmond, had sworn at the Coroner's inquest that there was no one present on the stairs at the time of the tragedy, nor had any one passed up or down the stairs from the time Stokes entered until Fisk came in. At the last trial Redmond had testified that Hart was present, and had excused his previous statement by asserting that at the inquest he had forgotten about the presence of Hart, and it had not come to his recollection until several months subsequent to the shooting, when he was in the House of Detention with the former. The jury had believed the second statement to be false. Peter Coughlin, a fireman, had also testified that Hart was not present, and Jennie Turner, a waiting maid employed by the Morse family, testified that Hart, at the time of the homicide, was at the entrance to the dining-room, fifty feet distant. After further reviewing the testimony of Hart, and characterizing it as wholly false, the foreman stated that Ex-Court Officer Patrick Logan had testified that Hart had admitted having been influenced by the promise of $1,000, and that he had "boasted of possessing influential backers." The foreman, in conclusion, stated in his communication that the facts presented inclined him to the opinion that the prisoner was justified in the belief that his life was imperiled, and he believed that he expressed the feelings of the majority of the members of the jury. He said he hoped that in view of the circumstances surrounding the case his Excellency would consider that justice demanded the interposition of executive clemency.

A MOTHER REFUSED THE CUSTODY OF HER CHILD.

Judge Hoffman was engaged yesterday in the Hudson County Orphans' Court, in listening to the application of Mrs. Marie E. Dunn for the custody of her child—a son. Mrs. Dunn's husband was killed in battle, and she was left as guardian of their two children. Unable to provide for both of them, she placed the son in charge of his grandfather, who afterward left him with Charles H. Lathrop, of Jersey City, for care. Mrs. Dunn has since remarried, and she demanded the child from Mr. Lathrop. He refused to surrender the boy and procured from Judge Hoffman a writ requiring her to show cause why she should not be removed from the guardianship of the boy. For Mr. Lathrop it was shown that Mrs. Dunn's character is not of the purest, and that, instead of using her pension moneys for the benefit of her children, she left them improperly provided for. The court decided to award the custody of the child to Mr. Lathrop.

A RAILROAD CONTRACT.

Oliver W. Barnes and Benjamin W. Pippey obtained a contract to build fifty miles of the roadbed of the Moodie and North-western Railroad, and claimed a balance of $104,231 to be due on their contract. Finding one of the Directors of the road in this City, the contractors served him with process in a suit to recover the amount of their claim, brought in the Supreme Court in this City. No attention being paid to the suit on the part of the company, judgment was entered against it by default for $123,467 58, including interest on the original balance. Yesterday, in Supreme Court, Chambers, before Judge Donohue, application was made on behalf of the company to open the default. The application was made on the ground that the suit was not properly brought in this State, the cause of action not having arisen therein, and the company having no property therein. To this it was answered that the contract was made in this State, and that the company has property therein in the shape of unpaid subscriptions of resident stockholders.

The Court sent the case before a referee to take testimony on the questions of fact raised on the motion.

THE TOMBS POLICE COURT.

THE APPLE-GRINDING DOG—THE CHARGE AGAINST DEPUTY SHERIFF KELLY—MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

The proceedings in the case in which Deputy Sheriff Kelly is charged with committing an assault upon Joseph Bailey, an employe in Walker's cider mill on Broadway, when arresting him for alleged cruelty to a Siberian blood-hound used to grind apples, was continued yesterday at the Tombs before Justice Kasmire. Mr. Elbridge T. Gerry appeared on behalf of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals to defend Kelly, and was accompanied by Mr. Henry Bergh. Mr. Philip Walker, brother of the proprietor of the cider mill, continued his evidence, and adhered to his testimony, that Kelly had said that there was no cause for the arrest, and that he would not have made it had he not been ordered to do so by Dr. Enuever, one of the officers of the society. Charles W. Walker testified that he is the proprietor of the cider mill, and has been since the 1st of last May. The dogs that ground the apples had been continually and publicly used since the 8th of last October, in turning the mill to grind the apples. Witness had been tried on the date mentioned in the Court of Special Sessions on the charge of cruelty to a dog. The first heard from James Deester, a boy who worked for witness, that Kelly pointed a pistol at Bailey. He had advised Bailey to prosecute the present complaint, and Bailey had employed counsel at his own expense. Plaintiff had told witness that Kelly had drawn a pistol on him. George W. Walker, brother of the last witness, testified that Kelly told him that he would not have arrested Bailey had it not been for Enuever. The record of James W. Walker's conviction on the 8th of last October in the Court of Special Sessions of cruel treatment to a dog was admitted in evidence, Mr. Gerry contending that it was relevant to show that the Walker brothers were guided by animosity to such an extent in the present prosecution as to affect the credibility of their testimony. It was arranged that counsel should submit briefs, and the court reserved its decision of the case until the briefs and testimony can be examined.

At the Tombs Police Court yesterday, before Justice Smith, in the case in which Richard Siefert was charged with forging bank-checks and negotiating them, complaints were made by John Wilhelm, Adolph Jaeger, Mathias Ruenhagen, Charles Schlater, and Henry Wetterlein, that they had cashed such checks for him, and he was fully committed to answer at the General Sessions, in default of $1,000 bail under each complaint.

Henry Rosebrook, arrested on the charge of keeping a faro bank and *rouge et noir* table in a room back of his lager-bier saloon, No. 344 Broome street, gave $500 bail to answer at General Sessions. The visitors at Rosebrook's place, who were arrested with him, were discharged.

James O'Brien, of No. 163 Hudson street, was charged with having feloniously assaulted Thomas Gorman, of No. 656 Sixth avenue, Brooklyn, by striking him a heavy blow on the head with an iron bar on the night of the 27th of last December. Gorman, after swearing to the complaint, wanted to withdraw the charge, but the court refused permission, and sent Gorman to the House of Detention, and committed O'Brien for trial in default of $1,000 bail.

A FLURRY IN GOLD.

About 11:30 o'clock yesterday morning the following dispatch was sent over the tape of the Manhattan Quotation Company:

LONDON, 3 P. M.—Discounts open market, 4¾; bank rate, 5. Bullion withdrawn from Bank of England, £268,000. American securities weak. Erie, 25½.

In a short time great excitement was manifest on the street. The gold room filled with eager buyers of bullion, and the rate rapidly rose three-sixteenths of a cent. In less than twenty minutes $1,200,000 worth of gold had changed hands at the highest figure, when the regular press dispatch came along, stating that the Bank of England had gained £20,000 bullion; that American securities were unchanged, and that the street rate of discount for money was ⅞ of a cent below the bank rate. This was shortly followed by the following announcement from the Manhattan Quotation Company:

CORRECTION.—LONDON—4 P. M.—Bank of England gained on balance to-day £20,000; '90s, 4½s. Frankfort—U. S. '62s, 98⅞.

The swindled brokers were angry at the trick that had been played upon them. An indignation meeting was organized on the spot, and after denunciatory speeches, a committee of five was appointed to investigate the origin of the false dispatch. They were Messrs. R. B. Whittemore, Underhill, O'Brien, Content, and Newbold. They proceeded to the offices of the Manhattan Quotation Company, and questioned those in charge. The only explanation they could obtain was that the spurious dispatch had been left in the office by a boy. It was written on a blank slip of paper, and was without signature. Those in charge of the office supposed it to have come from Mr. Cunningham, their agent, and they used it accordingly. When the committee returned to the Board they reported what they had learned, and recommended that, in view of the loose manner in which the business of the Manhattan Quotation Company was manifestly conducted, the instruments of the company be excluded from the rooms of the board. They also recommended that the Executive Committee offer a reward of $500 for the discovery and conviction of the originator of the spurious report. The latter body will take action to-morrow. The $1,200,000, gold, which changed hands under the influence of the report, was sold under the rule, and suit is to be instituted against the Manhattan Company to recover the difference between the real and false values.

THE ROBBERY OF PROF. PECK'S SILVERWARE AND JEWELRY.

As reported in THE TIMES of the day following, the residence of Prof. William G. Peck, No. 126 East Thirty-fifth street, was robbed on the night of Dec. 27 last of a wooden box containing silverware, jewelry, and papers to the value of $343. Two men on that evening (Sunday) rang the door-bell and were admitted by Mr. Peck's son, a youth of eighteen, who gave them the box and assisted them in taking it out of the house. A servant girl attempted to prevent the robbery, and the police were hastened to the church where Prof. and Mrs. Peck were attending service. Mr. Peck followed the thieves, but they had made good their escape. Young Peck soon afterward returned home, but stubbornly refused to disclose the names of his confederates. He was arrested, but Mr. Peck declining to prosecute the young man was discharged. On Friday night Officer Ferris, of the Twenty-first Precinct, who has been working up the case, saw two young men, one of whom was Abraham Franks, of No. 73 Avenue C, carrying between them the stolen box on the avenue named. Franks was arrested, but for some reason has not yet disclosed, his companion was not molested. In the box were found the missing papers, but the jewelry and silverware were gone. Franks was yesterday committed by Justice Bixby in default of $3,000 bail. Young Peck's ruin is attributed to a mania for gambling and the society of dissolute companions of both sexes.

THE COMMISSIONERS OF CHARITIES AND CORRECTION.

The Commissioners of Charities and Correction yesterday had an interview with the Police Commissioners, with the view of forming a plan whereby the out-door poor of the City can be served through the agency of the Police. The suggestions of the Charity Commissioners met with the entire approval of the Police Commissioners, who promised to do all in their power to further the scheme, and the plan is to be put into operation at once, as an experiment. The idea is to have the Police act in the capacity of visitors, and to report all cases of want to the Department of Charities. This plan, if successful, will render the hiring of salaried visitors no longer necessary and will be the saving to the department of a large amount annually. Since their appointment, the new Commissioners have been daily pestered with numerous applications for positions, all of which they have invariably denied, from the fact that instead of intending any further augmentation of their forces, they will probably find it necessary to undertake a thinning out in order to keep within the bounds of their annual appropriation.

A NOTORIOUS THIEF HELD FOR TRIAL.

The full account of the commitment of James Williams on three charges of stealing articles from doctors' offices was published in yesterday's TIMES, as also the fact that other complaints were being made out against him. Yesterday afternoon the following complaints were entered against this audacious swindler, on each of which he was held in $1,000 bail for trial. His manner of stealing was to gain admission to doctors' offices during their absence, under the plea of wanting advice, and while there steal everything he could lay his hands upon and decamp. On 4th of December he entered the house of Dr. James E. Perry, No. 147 West Twenty-second street, and stole a coat worth $40. On 14th of December he made away with two coats, a diamond pin, and other articles, valued at $220, from the house of Dr. Edward C. Harvard, of No. 154 West Forty-ninth street, by a similar operation. On 29th of December he stole clothing and other articles worth $100 from the office of Dr. W. P. Ackerman, No. 134 Lexington avenue, being admitted thereto by the servant girl. On 29th of December he got admission to the office of Dr. Lazarus Sebsenig, No. 158 East Seventy-first street, and succeeded in appropriating $470 worth of surgical and other instruments. Dr F. W. Bird, of No. 305 Degraw street, Brooklyn, and Dr. Leary, of No. 654 De Kalb avenue, Brooklyn, also appeared as complainants against the prisoner. Williams has already served two terms in Sing Sing for crimes just similar to those aforementioned. Owing to the many charges already made against him, and many still to be made, he will most probably spend the remainder of his life in the service of the State. Justice Murray held him in $1,000 bail on each and every charge.

THE NORTH SIDE ASSOCIATION.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE ON IMPROVEMENTS TO THE HARLEM RIVER—RAPID TRANSIT—WHAT THE PEOPLE OF THE ANNEXED DISTRICT WANT.

The North Side Association held its last meeting of the current year at the office of the Morrisania Steam-boat Company, at North New-York, yesterday afternoon, Hon. William B. Ogden, President in the chair. The report of the Harlem River Improvement Committee, presented by Mr. Lewis G. Morris, was quite an interesting paper, setting forth the extent of navigation of the river, the number of vessels of each class, with the number of passengers which had been conveyed up and down by the several steamers on the river; also a description of the cargoes of sailing vessels, together with a statement of the number of times the various draw-bridges had been opened to let vessels and steamers pass through during the year—averaging one every fifteen minutes. The committee in their report urged the necessity of making such improvements to the Harlem River and Spuyten Duyvil Creek as will admit of vessels passing through between the East and North Rivers, in accordance with the recommendations of Gen. Newton. The report likewise alluded to the importance of constructing more bridges over the Harlem River.

The Rapid Transit Committee, after alluding to the various schemes which had been devised to furnish rapid transit, and the opposition they had met with, set forth that the efforts of the association should be directed to some plan for securing rapid transit between Forty-second street and the City Hall.

The Local Improvement Committee presented quite a voluminous report, in which it urged the necessity of thorough sewerage and drainage in the annexed territory, but complained that sufficient appropriations have not been made by the authorities for that purpose. Mr. Wm. H. Grant, Engineer of the Department of Parks, has prepared a thorough and comprehensive plan for the drainage of Mill Brook, but the lack of funds precluded the idea of the improvement being carried out for the present. The Third avenue improvement from Harlem Bridge to the old town line is expected to be completed by the 1st day of May next, and the Department of Public Parks have been very liberal, although economical, in their estimates for the maintaining of streets, roads and bridges, but the Board of Apportionment have cut down those estimates to an amount smaller than ever before appropriated for that purpose under the old town Government. The work of surveying, mapping, and monumenting of the district has been progressed very favorably under the direction of the Department of Public Parks, but owing to the minute care and study required, it is impossible to fix a date when the plans will be finished. The Board of Apportionment in this instance have also retarded the progress in the work by cutting down the estimates. The committee consider that with the limited sums placed at the disposal of the Department of Public Parks, it cannot be justly held responsible for the long delay which must result in the completion of the surveys and maps. The Department of Public Works has introduced the Croton water into the territory as far as the old Town Hall of Morrisania, but, in consequence of the funds being expended, this work will not be prosecuted any further for the present. The Chief Engineer of Public Works considers that the best mode of supplying the territory with Croton water will be from the reservoir in Central Park, and not from a new reservoir to be erected in the territory. The latter plan he is opposed to for several reasons. In the first place, it would involve an immense expenditure of money. In the next place, the district would not have the benefit of a reserve supply of water in case of an accident; and, lastly, the water would not have as good a chance of settling and becoming clear. More legislation is required, however, in order to secure an increased supply of water.

The attention of the Department of Public Parks has been directed to the propriety of opening or improving the condition of the following streets: Paving or Macadamizing One Hundred and Thirty-eighth street from Third avenue to Mott Haven depot; and One Hundred and Forty-ninth street from the Southern Boulevard to Railroad or Third avenue. Macadamizing or paving of Westchester avenue. Straightening, opening, widening, and otherwise improving One Hundred and Sixty-seventh street from the Southern Boulevard to Central avenue, as giving the best access to Morrisania depot. Paving or macadamizing of some one of the avenues leading from Morrisania to Tremont and Fordham. The completion of Sedgewick avenue, and of a road affording access to Central avenue through the upper portion of King's Bridge.

Mr. George H. Foster offered the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the North Side Association recognizes the just appreciation of Hon. William H. Wickham, the Mayor of the City, of the requirements of the Twenty-third and Twenty-fourth Wards, and approves fully and without reserve of the sound views expressed in his recent able message to the Common Council in respect to the annexed territory.

Resolved, That in accordance with his judgment so discriminating of the necessities of the case the surveys of that part of the City lying north of the Harlem River now in progress should be completed without further delay.

Resolved, That the Department of Public Parks be requested to file at once the maps of such portions of the territory as have been heretofore prepared under their direction, to the end that the lines of the streets, roads, and avenues as determined by that department may be known, and that building operations, and other improvements precluded for the last three years in a large portion of the territory by the uncertainty of property-owners as to the final action of the department in the matter, may no longer be prevented.

Resolved, That a new bridge across the Harlem River, sufficiently high so as not to interfere with the small steamers now navigating that river, is demanded by the increasing travel and traffic. The construction of drains through the low lands demanded for sanitary purposes, and the extention of the full benefit of the Croton water system to those two wards demanded for the security of property as well as for the conservation of health, will relieve to this municipality the middle class of population—the very best element of our people—now driven to New-Jersey, and will increase the taxable value of property in these wards far beyond the cost of these very necessary improvements, and thereby lighten taxation and relieve real estate in other parts of the City.

The Secretary was directed to transmit a copy of the foregoing resolutions to the Mayor.

THE DELANEY HOMICIDE.

THOMAS HAYES FOUND GUILTY OF MURDER IN THE SECOND DEGREE—SENTENCE DEFERRED UNTIL TUESDAY NEXT.

The trial of Thomas Hayes, charged with the murder of Thomas E. Delaney, in the month of September last, was continued in the Court of Oyer and Terminer yesterday before Judge Barrett and a jury. Some facts corroborative of those already published were submitted in the case, after which Mr. A. Oakey Hall, counsel for the prisoner, proceeded to address the jury in his behalf. He reviewed the facts at great length, occupying nearly three hours in his address, contending that such facts showed that the meeting of the accused and the deceased was accidental; that there was an utter absence of a grudge between the parties; that the action of both parties at the door of the house where they met showed the absence of all malice, as did the prisoner's subsequent walking away after high words had ensued between them show his desire to avoid a conflict; that Delaney began the wrong by following up the accused and renewing the quarrel; that what was done was done in the heat of passion, and left no room for premeditation; that the affray was a sudden one, and the manner of inflicting the wound showed it to have been in the heat of passion; that his flight subsequently was merely injudicious, prompted by the advice of friends; that he could have escaped, if he so desired, after the shooting; that his condition of intoxication when arrested was such as to make what he then said wholly unreliable; that when he came to his senses he made no secret of his act; that he avowed to some of the witnesses that he was on his way to the Station-house to give himself up; that he kept on such way in the most direct manner, crossed the street at the proper point and in the proper direction, and was keeping steadily in that direction when arrested; that, in short, the whole testimony showed the prisoner to have acted in self-defense, at most in the heat of passion, and constituted only manslaughter in the fourth degree.

Assistant District Attorney Lyons followed on behalf of the prosecution. He claimed that all the credible testimony in the case pointed to the fact that there had been a coolness between the accused and the deceased; that this coolness had ripened into a grudge, and the latter on the night in question had ripened into such a deliberate intent to take the life of the deceased as constituted murder in the first degree; that the wounds on the prisoner were self-inflicted after the shooting, for the purpose of fabricating testimony on the question of self-defense, and that his attempts at concealment at the same time were evidences of his conscious guilt.

Judge Barrett then charged the jury, defining the circumstances which constitute the crime of murder in the first degree, murder in the second degree, manslaughter in the third and fourth degrees, and what constituted justifiable homicide. He dwelt with emphasis on the provision of the statute which justified the killing of another. Such circumstances must not be mere insulting words, or even injuries inflicted with the unarmed hand, but must be such as cause a well-grounded apprehension of the life of the party killing, or else great bodily harm. He concluded by impressing upon them that they must perform their duty unaffected by any feeling of sentimentality, growing out of any hardship which might ensue to the prisoner or his family.

A few minutes before 7 o'clock the jury retired, and in fifteen minutes returned into court with a verdict of murder in the second degree.

Mr. Hall, counsel for the prisoner, then requested that sentence might be deferred for a few days.

Judge Barrett granted the request, and fixed Tuesday morning next as the time when sentence would be imposed.

On the rendition of the verdict, as indeed at intervals throughout the trial, both the prisoner and his young wife were bitterly

CITY AND SUBURBAN NEWS.

NEW-YORK.

The Police arrested 1,349 persons last week.

The Infant Asylum ball will take place at the Academy of Music next Thursday evening.

Mr. John M. Fox has been appointed Warden of the Penitentiary in place of Thomas S. Liscombe removed.

Vice President Wilson arrived in this City yesterday, from Washington, and left last evening for Philadelphia.

The Fire Commissioners will present a written answer to the charges made against them to Mayor Wickham on Monday.

The Corporation Counsel is still engaged upon his answer to Mayor Wickham's charges, but it will be ready on Wednesday next.

It is said that a bill will be introduced in the Legislature restoring to the Board of Aldermen the power to confirm appointments.

John Sullivan was captured in Belleville while in the act of breaking into James Mooney's store. He was committed to the County Jail for trial.

George Sofongua, of No. 609 Broadway, fell from the second story of the new building, corner of Broadway and Fulton street, yesterday, and sustained serious injuries.

The Week of Prayer will close with a general meeting of the Evangelical Alliance this evening, at the South Reformed Church, corner of Fifth avenue and Twenty-first street.

George B. Phillbitt, for many years a messenger in the Custom-house, died yesterday. He was seventy-eight years of age, and resided in Plainfield, N. J. He was considered wealthy.

The clerks and officers of the various Courts of Record are importunate for their pay, due on the first of the present month. The answer from the Finance Department is, "Appropriation exhausted."

About 11 o'clock Friday night the locomotive of an extra freight train on the Pennsylvania Railroad ran off the track at South Elizabeth and blocked up the track for about an hour. The damage was slight.

The Mayor received a large number of visitors yesterday. Among the callers were Senators Moore, Ledwith, and Pierce, Ex-Assemblyman Daly, Ex-Mayor Gunther, Col. John R. Fellows, Emanuel B. Hart, and others.

The colored citizens have called a meeting to take place at Shiloh Church, No. 140 Sixth avenue, to-morrow evening, for the purpose of passing resolutions of respect to the memory of the late Hon. Gerrit Smith.

Catharine Dilger, a young woman who has been hiring herself out lately as a domestic, was yesterday held in $1,000 bail by Justice Murray, at Essex Market Police Court, on two charges of robbing her employers.

During the past week there were reported at the Bureau of Vital Statistics 632 deaths, 450 births, and 151 marriages, being an increase of forty-eight deaths and a decrease of sixty-six births and three marriages, as compared with the previous week.

Frederick Daily, alias "Buck McCarty," a noted pickpocket, was arrested by Detective Keeley, of the Nineteenth Subprecinct, who found him on a University place car in the act of picking a passenger's pocket. Daily will be taken to court to-day.

Prof. D. G. Eaton, of the Packer Institute, Brooklyn, will lecture on "The Great Pyramid" before the Association for the Advancement of Science and Art, at Dr. Rogers' church, corner of Fifth avenue and Twenty-first street, to-morrow, at 8 P. M.

A grand masquerade and fancy dress ball will take place under the auspices of Mlle. Marie Aimée, Miss Emily Soldene, and their respective troupes, and the new French company of the Park Theatre, at the Academy of Music, on Tuesday, the 19th inst.

The Church Conference will be held at the chapel of the Church of the Incarnation, corner of Thirty-fifth street and Madison avenue to-morrow evening. Eulogies on the late Rev. Dr. Montgomery will be delivered by Rev. Drs. Washburn, Peters, and Osgood.

The Aldermanic Committee on Salaries and Offices, to whom Sheriff Connor's communication asking that rates of compensation be fixed for his services in summoning jurors, &c., was referred, made another attempt to meet yesterday, but adjourned for want of a quorum.

Yesterday's foreign mail was the largest ever sent out from this port. The Hohenzollern took 61,163 letters and 22 bags of mail matter; the Adriatic, 32 684 letters and 52 bags; the Vera Cruz 4,832 letters and 4 bags, and the Andes, 1,600 letters and 2 bags. The scarcity of shipping during the week on account of the delay caused by the storm is the explanation given.

Judge Donohue, in Supreme Court, Chambers, yesterday, granted a stay prohibiting the Tax Commissioners from taking any steps to enforce payment of a tax levied on money expended by the Pacific Mail Steam-ship Company on new ships, until five days after the General Term, in which the question is now pending, shall have decided on the right to impose such tax.

The new steam-ship City of Vera Cruz of the Alexandre Line sailed for Havana yesterday. The vessel is brigantine rigged, of 1,874 tons burden, and was built by John Engles & Son, of Greenpoint, Long Island. The engines were constructed by Messrs. Murphy & Co., of this City. The officers are: Captain, John Deaken; Purser, C. F. Burke; First Officer, N. M. Rettig; Second Officer, Joseph Burlay; Chief Engineer, R. W. Peck; and Steward, J. F. Mills.

BROOKLYN.

The Police made 350 arrests during the past week.

During the past week the receipts for taxes amounted to $19,398 88.

Among the unclaimed letters in the Brooklyn Post Office, is one addressed to "King Kalakau."

The County Court calendar for January, on which there are sixty-five cases, will be called on Monday.

An extensive rearrangement of the interior of the Post Office is in progress, which when completed will greatly add to the convenience of the public.

The regular meeting of the Long Island Historical Society will be held next Tuesday. Rev. Charles W. Baird will read a paper entitled "The Huguenots of New-York."

At a meeting of the Board of Assessors, yesterday morning, the assessment for the widening of St. Mark's avenue, from Grand avenue to Clove road, amounting to $50,055 63, was confirmed.

Ernest Lang, of No. 34 Van Cott avenue, and John Connor, of No. 398 Gold street, had their licenses revoked yesterday by the Board of Excise for violating the Excise law by selling liquor on Sunday.

In Justice Riley's court, yesterday, the twelve men arrested on Friday night for being present at a dog-fight in "Tim" Madden's place, on Schenck street, were each held in bonds in the sum of $1,000 to answer.

Resolutions were adopted yesterday, at a meeting of the Board of Police, tendering the thanks of the department to Mrs. Conway, of the Brooklyn Theatre, and her company, for the generosity displayed by them in giving a performance for the benefit of the widow of the late Capt. Isaac L. Bourne.

A call has been signed by a number of distinguished clergymen in Brooklyn, without regard to creed, inviting the clergy and laity to attend a prayer-meeting, which will be held this afternoon at 4:15 o'clock, at Dr. Talmage's Tabernacle, on Schermerhorn street. One hour will be devoted to prayer "for a mighty outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the City of Brooklyn."

The Brooklyn Liquor-dealers' Protective Union has elected the following officers to serve during the ensuing year: John T. Slane, President; D. M. Maddon, First Vice President; A. A. Newman, Second Vice President; R. F. Canning, Recording Secretary; John Boyle, Financial Secretary; Daniel McCleary, Corresponding Secretary; P. F. Kamf, Treasurer; P. H. Brady, Sergeant at Arms.

Alderman Kenna, of the special committee appointed to take steps toward the resumption of the Grand Street Ferry, recently had an interview with the New-York Dock Commissioners in reference to the matter. Mr. Kenna reports that a lease for fifteen years will be granted by the Dock Commissioners on the following terms: $3,000 per annum for the first five years; $4,000 for the next five years, and $5,000 for the last five years. In addition to this the company will be obliged to stipulate the payment of two per cent. on the gross receipts into the New-York Sinking Fund.

LONG ISLAND.

Several thousand tons of ice have been taken from the lakes in the vicinity of Babylon during the past week.

Rev. B. M. Adams, of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Hempstead, has resigned his pastorate in consequence of an affection of the throat. His resignation will take effect in April.

The Southern Railroad Company, it is reported, have been informed by Mr. Charles Fox, the former President of the South Side Railroad Company, that unless they purchase the branch track running from near Fresh Pond to Hunter's Point, it will be sold to other parties. This branch, which runs to the mouth of Newtown Creek, has been used for the transportation of manure, coal, lumber, and other heavy freight, from the water side to the main track.

A two-story frame dwelling belonging to Mr. Robert W. Butler, of Hempstead, unoccupied, was destroyed by fire on Thursday; loss about $2,500. The house had been cleaned on the day previous, and a fire had been built in a stove.

Simon Klein, of Forty-fifth street and Ninth avenue, New-York, fell from the roof of the new Queens County Court-house, at Hunter's Point, yesterday, and was killed. He had worked upon the building all Summer and Winter, and had finished yesterday.

A driver of Mr. McCarthy, of Great Neck, while crossing James Slip Ferry yesterday with a load of hay, refused to take the side of the boat designated by the bridge man. When remonstrated with he drew a revolver upon the deck hand, but was overpowered before doing any injury.

The pressing need of a hospital in Long Island City is plainly visible daily. There is no place where contagious diseases may be treated. A man was fatally injured in the city yesterday, and the only accommodation afforded was a rude stretcher in the station-house, where he died shortly after.

The widow of Jeremiah Post, of Hempstead, who was killed by the upsetting of his wagon while he was drunk, some nights ago, has brought action against the liquor-dealers of Hempstead Village, who sold her husband liquor on the evening before his death. The actions are brought under the provisions of the Civil Damages act, and Mrs. Post seeks to recover $1,000 in each case. A decision has recently been given by the courts awarding damages to a Mrs. Tilly, of North Hempstead, in a similar case.

WESTCHESTER COUNTY.

Work has been resumed in the jewelry factory at West Mount Vernon, with cheering prospects of a good business for some time to come.

An Eastern firm have purchased about six acres of land on Midland avenue, Tuckahoe, from Mr. Andrew Findley for the site of an extensive boot and shoe manufactory. From 600 to 700 operatives will be employed in the establishment, and a large number of small dwellings will be erected for the accommodation of the persons employed.

STATEN ISLAND.

The Merchants' Exchange and News and Maritime Telegraph Associations have recently opened an office in the County Clerk's office, at Richmond.

The Castleton Board of Education have adopted rules for carrying out the provisions of the Compulsory Education act, and they have been submitted to one of the Supreme Court Judges for approval.

Tyrian Chapter No. 219, R. A. M. at Factoryville, has elected the following officers: High Priest, Benjamin F. Cook; King, John Sidney Clark; Scribe, Joseph G. Drew; Treasurer, A. Taylor; Secretary, H. G. Schutzendaf; Trustee, Albert Berthond.

The Local Visiting Committee for the Richmond County institutions have addressed a letter to the Superintendents of the Poor, in which they say: "It is very desirable that some light labor should be provided for the large number of men and women in the poor-house who are partially disabled, and now sit all day idle, and we respectfully request your honorable body to appoint a committee to consider what industry would be best fitted for them, and to carry out the law in this respect."

NEW-JERSEY.

The West Hoboken Town Collector has received $27,000 of last year's taxes, and $38,000 is still due.

During the performance at the Jersey City theatre on Friday evening one of the actors was knocked down by the discharge of a gun by one of the "soldiers" in the play, and Miss Fanny Herring's clothing was set on fire.

The Jersey City Schutzen Corps on Friday evening held an annual election, which resulted in the choice of David Etting as Captain; Bernard Lippman, Recording Secretary; William Rappe, Treasurer; and John Miller, Financial Secretary.

A suspicion exists that James Butterly, who died at St. Mary's Hospital in Hoboken, Friday, in consequence of injuries previously received, was the victim of violence at the hands of some persons whose names are not as yet known. An inquest is to be held.

A man who gave his name as John Carroll, who was driving a wagon on Grand street, Jersey City, Friday night, was arrested by Detective Francis for creating a disturbance. After the arrest two boys who were with Carroll confessed that the horse and wagon had been stolen from Sackett street, Brooklyn.

Archibald Elkin, sixteen years of age, and William Allen, twenty-one years of age, were arrested in Jersey City yesterday morning, charged with having been implicated with William Clark in a series of burglaries perpetrated recently in the lower section of Jersey City. Justice Farrier held both for examination.

CURLING MATCHES AT CENTRAL PARK.

There were three curling matches at Central Park yesterday. The Ivanhoe Club, of Paterson, N. J., contested St. Andrew's Club, of this City; the New-York Club competed with the Thistle Club, of Brooklyn, and a match was played by the Caledonian and Empire City Clubs, of this City. The following is a list of the scores:

ST. ANDREWS.	IVANHOE.
Rink No. 1.	Rink No. 1.
1—W. Ritchie.	1—John Gunn.
2—G. Hendenson.	2—C. E. Shaubury.
3—S. McConchie.	3—H. L. Butler.
Skip—J. Kellock—34.	Skip—John S. Smith—19.
Rink No. 2.	Rink No. 2.
1—D. McGill Peck.	1—
2—A. M. Stewart.	2—Morton Clark.
3—Jos. Henderson.	3—M. Prall.
Skip—Maj. W. Ferguson—25	Skip—John Dunlop—24.
Total for St. Andrews, 59.	
Total for Ivanhoe, 43.	
NEW-YORK.	THISTLE.
Rink No. 1.	Rink No. 1.
1—R. Swinton.	1—J. Simpson